FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CONTADORA DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET

PA021827 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The Contadora Group today began a 2-day meeting in this capital to establish a timetable in view of the 6 June deadline set by the diplomats for the signing of the peace treaty for Central America.

The foreign ministers, Jose Maria Cabrera of Panama, Guillermo Fernandez Soto of Colombia, German Nava Carrillo of Venezuela, and Ricardo Valero of Mexico, are participating in the meeting.

The date 6 June will mark the total success or the definite failure of the peace efforts for Central America which Contadora began in January 1983.

The Central American countries have been summoned to sign the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation, but there are still topics on weapons and international military maneuvers which must be reviewed.

The Colombian deputy foreign minister said at the meeting that started today that they will discuss the Contadora proposals on the two pending topics in order to incorporate the agreements that were achieved in recent meetings and get a very well reviewed document.

All countries except Nicaragua have expressed a willingness to sign the regional peace treaty without conditions on 6 June.

Central Americans Given 3 Weeks

PA032356 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2215 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Panama City, 3 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Contadora Group today granted the Central American countries 3 weeks to resume peace negotiations which have been stagnant since last year.

Today, the peacemaking group, formed by Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela, invited the five Central American nations to send their plenipotentiary delegates to a meeting in Panama City on 16, 17, and 18 May.

The meeting will review the last two chapters of the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America that remain to be completed: on arms control and international military maneuvers. These two pending issues have not been discussed at the negotiating table since last year.

The meeting in May will be held 3 weeks before the date set by Contadora for the signing of the regional peace treaty, that is, 6 June.

The meeting of the Central American plenipotentiaries was agreed upon at the end of a 2-day meeting that was held by the Contadora deputy ministers here in Panama City.

In the hallway of the hotel where the meeting was held, German Nava Carrillo, the Venezuelan deputy foreign minister, said: "We have worked to prepare and organize the meeting of Central American plenipotentiaries who will continue reviewing the document."

According to Colombian Deputy Foreign Minister Guillermo Fernandez de Soto, the Contadora Group also "made preparations" for the diplomatic "summit" in which the document for regional peace, which has been in negotiation for 3 years, is expected to be signed.

All the Central American nations have pledged to sign the document without conditions, except Nicaragua, which will not commit itself to the military promises made in the document until the United States guarantees an end to its support for the contra groups.

"We hope that there will be a culmination of negotiations and a signing of the document on 6 June. That is our decision, and we stand by it," the Colombian deputy foreign minister said.

Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said at the end of a diplomatic "summit" that took place here at the beginning of April that if the Central American nations do not sign the document on 6 June "other roads will have to be taken."

Diplomatic sources maintain that if the Central American nations do not sign the document on the assigned date, the Contadora Group will transfer its efforts to another international organization after over 3 years of mediating the conflict.

Deputies Discuss Upcoming Meeting

PA030052 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0007 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] The Contadora Group deputy ministers and collaborators met in Panama today in order to reach agreements for the next meeting in Panama of the plenipotentiary ministers of the Contadora Group. The plenipotentiary ministers' meeting was agreed upon during the Contadora ministers meeting in Panama City in April.

The deputy ministers from Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, and Panama would also study the progress made since the appeal to the Central American nations to resume the negotiations so that the final Contadora document for regional peace can be signed by 6 June.

Jose Maria Cabrera, Panamanian deputy foreign minister, commented on the reiteration of the U.S. Government's interest in having the peace agreement for Central America as soon as possible.

[Begin recording] This is not only the wish and aspiration of the Washington government, but particularly of all of us Latin Americans. All Latin American countries, and especially the Contadora Group, the Support Group, and the Central American countries, want to conclude these negotiations successfully, with a peace and cooperation agreement that establishes formulas for the resolution of the Central American crisis. [end recording]

ALFONSIN SPEECH OPENS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

PYC12027 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 May 86

[Address to Congress by President Raul Alfonsin on 1 May to open the 1986 congressional session at the Chamber of Deputies -- live]

[Excerpts] A new period of regular congressional sessions is beginning today at a critical time in the institutional life we inaugurated on 10 December 1983. [resumption of constitutional rule after period of military rule] Another year of dedicated efforts by the Argentine people has just ended. The Argentine people have been the reason for the enthusiasm and perseverance of those of us who, from the various levels of the three branches of government, have assumed a great but challenging task. As president of Argentina, I have humbly but confidently arrived at this hall to comply with my constitutional duty. I have also come to share happiness and hopes with my fellow citizens.

There are many problems and issues that have brought us here today. I believe that nothing fundamental or decisive will be left out of the message I will deliver to this honorable assembly. There is a copy of it at each of your desks for your perusal, study, discussion, and judgment. Everything is worthy of being discussed in this assembly, which is truly representative of democracy. Without intending any discrimination, however, I have chosen some subjects to discuss before the representatives of the people and of the provinces. The end of this congressional session will practically coincide with the conclusion of the first half of my presidential term and with that of two government policy stages.

The first stage, which is nearing its end, was an effort to rebuild our democratic institutions. We are nearing the midpoint of our presidential term and all democratic institutions are fully operational, all civil rights and freedoms are fully guaranteed, all state organizations are limited to their specific roles without overgrown bureaucracy, concentration of power, intervened provinces, or repressive excesses.

Without doubt, this must be accredited not only to our administration but also and mainly to the maturity of the Argentine people. This solid achievement can be evaluated by facts. We have struggled to succeed and develop amid the worst economic crisis that has ever affected the country, and an atmosphere of grief that naturally stemmed from this situation. There are people who still believe that democracies work only in times of plenty and not in crisis. I believe that Argentina in 1986 clearly refutes this belief.

It is in recognizing this crisis that the seed of change is found. This is the time for new projects, new social actors, and the recovery of our initiative and collective creativity. This is the transition we are experiencing. It is a stage that goes from acknowledging our identity to choosing the paths by which to affirm our future. It would be impossible to find these paths outside the framework of our recovered democratic institutions, which are fully operational again.

The government's mission is and will be to put at the disposal of society the means it will need to walk down the path to its recovery with no obstacles. It is very important that we remain fully aware of the obstacles to overcome, the problems to solve, and the distortions to eliminate in order to carry out our task of firmly establishing democracy in our country.

In this aspect, I believe that our main effort must center on recovering the role and importance of the political parties as the principal actors of pluralism. This is something that cannot be separated from democracy. I tell you that there is no disagreement among us in our concept of democracy, which must be the free interaction of different political or ideological forces.

Sectionalism, however, is still hindering the hard task of national reconstruction. Deviant behaviors, developed over decades, explain but no longer justify the negative attitude of insisting on separating the interests of each sector from the higher interests and aspirations of the whole country. Our institutional life as well as our political and economic policies were seriously distorted by the sectionalist tendency of assuming that society's aspirations were only valid as long as they coincided with those of a section or group.

This sort of deformity occurred in the field of political parties, labor unions, farming, industrial activity, military, and state bureaucracy, which were reluctant to integrate with each other because of their selfish will to maintain a closed circuit of interests and exclusive values. Our efforts to build a solid democracy in Argentina could be frustrated again if we do not overcome the division of society by closed political or sectional units dedicated to fulfilling their own particular interests.

We need structural reforms to truly solve the daily problems of the Argentines. In order to help the country evolve with real perspectives of development and autonomy, we might need an institutional revision including the possibility of reforming the national Constitution. We must study the possibility of establishing an organic framework to favor rational discussion and consensus in the making of decisions. We need an institutional agreement not to allow the imposition of artificial majorities, which do not truly reflect our society. We need a democracy in which the majorities agree on what must be done for the future, and do not simply reflect an emotional faithfulness to the past.

Within that possible institutional revision, we must consider the alternative of freeing the Presidency from its imperial trappings and allowing it to concentrate on establishing the great national policies, and allowing Congress to have more direct and effective involvement in matters of state, as well as allowing the Cabinet to be closer to Congress. [applause] Within the context of this possible institutional reform we ought to consider introducing new mechanisms to increase democratic participation, political decentralization, and control over the authorities, and to improve public administration.

The institutional revision must also include perfecting the legal order and modernizing the administration of justice. We must pay particular attention to the technical deficiencies of the regulations dictated by different state organizations which have given rise to duplications, contradictions, and ambiguities, which in turn create a considerable legal instability with many avoidable legal processes. Finally, we must conclude the study of the Supreme Court's jurisdiction so as to allow the head of the judicial branch to concentrate on more important institutional matters.

As I said, it is possible that some of the aspects of this institutional renewal may require a constitutional reform. This is why I have summoned the council for the consolidation of democracy to seek its advice on this reform. [applause]

Honorable Congress: Our efforts to overcome the divisions of the past, a prerequisite to founding a stable democracy, have also led us to grapple with one of the situations that has contributed most to creating those divisions. I refer to the historical tensions between the city of Buenos Aires and the interior of the country, caused by the excessive growth and the hegemonism of the great port. We have, therefore, taken the initiative of promoting the transfer of the federal capital to the Viedma and Carmen de Patagones area, [applause] through a resolution aimed, partly, at solving that old, historic imbalance between the provinces and the urban complex of Buenos Aires, and partly at fulfilling the task -- put off for such a long time -- of using our vast southern regions for the people and our economy. The goal of this transfer is to start the country, at last, on its great march south in an epic of development and creativity, which will recall, by its projections, the epic of our grandfathers on the pampa.

It might be said that this is not the right time to do all this, and that we should not dream of epic transformations of the country at a time when there are not yet any solutions to the dramatic everyday problems of insufficient salaries or excessive interest rates. [applause] But history gives no examples of stable solutions to immediate problems, unless they are included in a great project that unites all wills. The people only advance if they are impelled by a common awareness of a challenge. Therefore, it is more than timely for us to face the immediate needs and the great hardships of the Argentine people with a call to a general reform of our community life.

It would make no sense to transfer the federal capital if it were an isolated measure. That would only be the expression of a voluntary measure that would not have major effects on the organizational and productive structure of the country. The transfer should be seen as part of a global program aimed at producing the balanced and equitable development of the various regions of the country, tending toward the realization of true federalism and toward the decentralization of the political, economic, and social power.

It is necessary to indicate the roles of the state and the private sector in carrying out the task of relocation. The state will necessarily be in charge of building the service infrastructure in the city, the buildings for the organizations to be transferred, housing for officials, and educational and sanitary facilities. The private sector, in turn, will build everything it needs for its activities, such as shops, banks, offices, professional studios, recreation and cultural facilities, supplies, factories, services, public entertainment, exhibitions, housing complexes, and hotels. It should also be recalled that all nations should have their diplomatic missions in the new capital, which implies an investment on the part of each nation.

The participation of the private sector implies the granting of land for its projects, which will be undertaken by means of sales by the state, which will include the value added through state investment so that the investment of the community will be returned to the community through the projects carried out by the public sector.

Honorable Congress: We must not forget that this message inaugurating a new legislative session period coincides with Labor Day. This very solemn ceremony is held in the middle of a greater phase, whose main characteristics are the great efforts of the Argentine workers in their struggle to face the economic crisis. [applause] I know, and it is painful and anguishing knowledge, that every worker, every employee, every public servant has every right to make demands in view of the economic situation that weighs them down.

I know that all this sacrifice is part of the epic of reconstruction. With the determined support of the tenacity of the people, we last year embarked on a profound plan of economic reform, the first step of which was to stabilize our currency after a long period of spiraling inflation, unprecedented in Argentine history. We have successfully taken that step. It is now up to the government and the people to coordinate stability and growth. Stability is valuable so long as it creates future development and prosperity.

We are in fact witnessing the beginning of recovery. After the deep depression of last few years, which continued in the first stages of the stabilization plan, the economic indicators have now begun to stir as weak but clearly visible signs of economic awakening, and we are at last overcoming the recession.

This recovery process, now under way, has its laws and its requirements which include not only cold market mechanisms but also human factors: the hopes, dreams, beliefs, and emotions of men. The objective growth is nourished by confidence in the possibility of achieving it. We may have all the success in the world in creating the objective conditions for the market mechanism to encourage growth, but that growth will not take place even under those objective conditions unless it is accompanied by a state of popular awareness conscientiously urging us on.

An initial process of recovery, like the one now shown by the economic indicators in Argentina, becomes strong and multiplies its possibilities to continue from the moment the people believe in it. To block that belief is to block the continuity of the process. To generate expectations of a recession while there is a real recovery process means to block that process. This is the reason for the enormous responsibility of all the political forces, of this Congress, and of the news and communications media of the country in the task, now vital, of preventing interference, which could hinder the conversion of the recovery into the trust of the people in that recovery, the reality of a solution already in sight from becoming the hope of the people to reach it.

We are at a crossroads in our history. Now that we have arrived there, let us be honestly and clearly aware that any demoralization in the people may force us to take the road of recession again. In this search for greater participation by the people, it is imperative to promote a debate on the current system of labor relations, severely criticized by workers and employers on numerous occasions. Our government maintains that the system of labor relations has become obsolete because it was conceived to face the demands of the first stages of development, which have been surpassed by the current transformations in production organization. It also combines state paternalism with the authoritarianism suppressing labor union liberty, a combination generating corporate behavior. It is an important undertaking to modify this anachronistic concept, an undertaking involving both workers and employers. The reform to which we aspire aims to harmoniously and completely transform and democratize the system of labor relations, and to define the new instruments of labor legislation, demanded by the modernization of the production apparatus, and to make the Labor and Social Security Ministry more efficient.

We know about the susceptibilities of some sectors to reform. It is, therefore, necessary to point out once again that the reform aims at redefining the roles of the forces of labor and production, not at reducing their participation. It is a question of rationalizing labor conflicts, doing away with the rigidity blocking the functioning of the economy, and broadening the contracted guarantees on the basis of collective bargaining without reducing the genuine rights of the labor forces. [applause]

We have called together employers, political and union representatives, and specialists to discuss the new system of labor relations. We will then submit the conclusions of this discussion to Congress so it can determine the scope and the final content of the reform. It is important for each worker to understand that many of the problems that are now burdening him have their origin not only in the economic crisis but also in the limited participation that current norms grant to him in matters that are of the greatest concern to him. The organization of his productive work and democratic rules and behavior should also be in force in the world of work. [applause]

The growth policy rests on the country's reindustrialization and the expansion of exports. To implement this policy, the decision was made to bring these two objectives under the same administrative roof of the Foreign Trade and Industry Secretariat. The government is determined to carry forward a reindustrialization process that will combine the recovery and modernization of the industrial sector with the creation of new high-technology industries capable of generating increased production and productivity, not only through their own activities but also by spreading to other existing sectors their technological improvements, which will ensure a considerable increase in the productivity of the entire economy.

Another important aspect of the reindustrialization process is the promotion of those activities that can provide supplies for the agricultural sector, thus making it possible for this sector to increase its productivity. Technology will thus be incorporated into the development of the agricultural sector over the medium term, and it will be the binding, complementary tie between industry and agriculture.

We want a reindustrialization process that will serve as a bridge between the demands of the domestic and the international markets. Thus, we will resume the export-opening process that started in the early 1960's but that was discontinued because of the anti-industrial policy implemented after 1976. The reentry of Argentine-manufactured goods in the international markets will initiate a promising cycle of more exports followed by more imports.

However, an additional but not the smallest difficulty that we must confront in rebuilding the country stems from the protectionist policies the largest industrial powers of the world follow regarding agriculture. These excessively protectionist policies are behind the large surpluses that are offered on the international market at prices well below their real production costs, disrupting the traditional markets for efficient countries like Argentina and forcing a general price decline.

To show the negative effect of these protectionist policies on the Argentine economy, one example will suffice: The volume of grains, oils, and byproducts exported in 1985 was 94 percent higher than in 1980, but this doubled volume of exports brought in earnings that increased by less than half -- 40 percent -- because prices dropped 28 percent over the 1980-85 period.

With conviction in a good cause, Argentina has protested and will continue to protest about this situation, because our country has the right to produce and to sell its exports at reasonable prices. So it will continue to condemn any trade practice that contributes to the artificial reduction of commodity prices. I want to be clearly understood: Argentina will not relinquish its share of the international market. No matter how difficult the present situation might be, we will not let up in defense of our right to participate in the world market, which we have been supplying for more than a century. [applause]

Congressmen, an event of utmost importance for our country's institutional life occurred during the most recent congressional session. I am referring to the final trial of those who were charged with culpability for serious violations of human rights and repressive actions. This almost unprecedented trial was conducted by independent and honest magistrates. It stands as an example that is admired throughout the world, because it showed that the Argentine people, who had been on the verge on an abyss, were able to recognize ethical and legal limits that cannot be trespassed in a state of law.

Other trials are under way against those who engaged in terrorism for sectarian reasons, as well as against those who conducted illegal represstion provoked by terrorism. In view of the country's political and social needs, the Defense Ministry instructed the military prosecutor to accelerate these trials through the appropriate courts. And the ministry did so according to the terms of the existing legal provisions regarding the accountability for the command or execution of repressive actions. These instructions, which were handed down in accordance with Article 86, Paragraphs 2 and 15 of the nation's Constitution, were totally respectful of the constitutional system. The decisions that have been or will be dictated by the magistrates in the exercise of their judiciary functions within their jurisdiction, as stated in Articles 95 and 100 of the Constitution, will be binding. [applause]

Congressmen, the growing regional and worldwide unrest we are witnessing is such that we must take stock of our identity, our condition, and our limitations at this juncture in history. We have many times said that we belong, although with our own identity, to the social, political, and cultural world of the West. I want to reiterate in this lofty forum that we indeed belong to the Western world, not merely by geographical chance or through the unfolding of an inherited situation that is passively accepted. It is not so, first, because the West is not a geographical region, but a historical process in which we play a role; and second, because the West represents a particular way of thinking and conducting politics, society, and development. In fact, the West is the birthplace of a society capable of creating and judging its own institutions, even those that seemed most sacred; of a society capable of discussing its decisions to see if they are right or wrong.

Of course, the West has not created only that. We would be naive to believe that, because the West is the sociohistorical setting where particularly inhuman forms of economic exploitation, especially during the various stages of the birth of countries, colonial expansion, and imperialist consolidation of capitalism, have existed. It is in the West where fascist and Nazi totalitarianisms have been installed for decades. Man has been capable of cruelty everywhere, and (Azhung), (Russelbalt), and the ghetto of Warsaw remind us that cruelty has been taken to horrible extremes in the West.

At the same time, a new and massive historical reality with values different from those of the West came into being. This reality is what has been given the name of the East. We are alarmed to see that the confrontation between the West and the East has two serious consequences in our region.

The first we may call the amorality of international policies resulting from an exaggerated concept of security. This distortion permeates the world with a political culture based on a double standard, with not only different but also opposite criteria applied to domestic and international relations.

Thus, the inviolability of domestic civil rights extended into the international area and the people's right to self-determination is not respected. Likewise, the egalitarian message for the domestic audience is not extended in an external message of equality of the states and the consequent respect for their sovereignty.

The old ideological contradiction is a thing of the past and we have to understand that the future of mankind is tied to our ability to overcome outmoded confrontation. There will be a democratic and just society in the world or there will be only chaos, wars, and barbarism, under the mounting threat of a final nuclear holocaust. On this issue, all the peoples of the world must have a voice and a vote. Nobody can make decisions about our common future on behalf of a few. [applause]

The nations from which we inherited our values must recognize and understand our special position and assume the responsibility of that legacy. Just as we are willing to struggle for the currency of those values in the new economic and social reality, those nations must understand that this is not easy under conditions that hinder our development and condemn us to dependency. Those nations must realize that not only our future is at stake but also their future and that of all humanity. Unless democracy takes hold and flourishes in Latin American nations, in the whole Southern Cone, there will be no security and stability for anybody in the world.

The issue is open to discussion. We are determined to participate on the side of the only political system that seems viable and able to create a new international order that is stable and ethical. Much has been said about the need for Latin American integration but this has never gone beyond a statement or an expression of hope. We have asked ourselves time and again how will Latin America be in the next century, and we have shuddered at the thought that the region might continue to be in the same situation it is in today: a land that promises progress and freedom, yet remains submerged in the anguish of underdevelopment and instability. I refuse to admit that this will be our fate.

If we want to set in motion a project that can be continued by future generations, if we are determined to struggle so Latin America can leap forward, we must think in regional terms. This is the mold the world ecoomy has been adopting on a larger scale. This is the answer found by the United States, Europe, the Soviet Union, and Asia.

Now, an indispensable condition to achieving this is the democratization of the countries of the continent. This is not just an ideological stand. It is necessary because any authoritarian government is based on a minority sector or on external support, or both. If it is based on a minority sector, the government lacks internal integration and this makes its regional integration impossible. [applause] On the other hand, if it is based on external support, that government will be aligned with a world power and will not seek regional integration as a means to gain strength. Let us not squander our efforts in fighting among ourselves. Let us use our strength to cope with the challenges we face. [5-minute applause]

Foreign Policy Statement

PY012309 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1601 GMT 1 May 86

[Foreign policy section of President Raul Alfonsin's message to Congress -- not included in his 1 May speech to Congress]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 May (NA) -- Referring to the international situation in his report to Congress, President Raul Alfonsin warned that "we observe with enormous concern the tendency toward supporting an escalation of a policy of force instead of strengthening the mechanisms that rule international conduct by using them efficiently." The chief of state identified the situation in Central America and the foreign debt as "the greatest dangers to hemispheric stability" and warned that "nobody should doubt that if stability is endangered, the security, democracy, and development of all of America will be endangered." He stated that "the fundamental objective of our foreign policy is to guarantee national independence" and "thus, we have given special priority to the topic of the foreign debt within the framework of the Cartagena consensus."

He also highlighted Argentina's participation in the Contadora Support Group, which was created in July 1985, and he highlighted the Caraballeda Dialogue, which outlines the principles for achieving peace in Central America and was issued by that group. The president said, "I reiterate once again that the government will remain aligned with the other Contadora Group countries." Alfonsin stated that the Central American situation, together with the foreign debt, "were the greatest dangers to hemispheric stability."

In his message he stated, "We continue with our diplomatic action in pursuit of an objective that is one of the clearest mandates of our people: the recovery of the Malvinas, South Sandwich, and South Georgias Islands." The president also highlighted the fact that "our actions regarding peace are among the main pillars of our foreign policy" and "we have continued to work with the Group of Six, having addressed the leaders of the great powers three times requesting that nuclear tests be suspended."

In his message he reiterated that "our country is decidedly against military force as a method for resolving conflicts of interests between states."

Finally, he stressed that "our task to achieve Latin American integration is bearing fruit" and in view of its development, "our political capability has increased considerably" and "the economic and cooperation agreements are now easier to achieve."

Economy Statement

PY020001 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1415 GMT 1 May 86

[Economic section of President Raul Alfonsin's message to Congress -- not included in his 1 May speech to Congress -- quotation marks as received]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 May (NA) -- The Executive Branch's report to Congress on the economic area indicates that in 1985 less than 30 percent of the value of exports was used to pay the foreign debt and that $16.65 billion of the debt has been refinanced. It stresses that the balance of the Austral Plan "justifies the anti-inflationary strategy because it has opened a more promising panorama for the country."

Moreover, it acknowledges that "the framework within which the economy is developing is showing less positive signs." Among these signs is "the adverse international context, including the foreign debt and trade, the difficulties of our productive structure that have not been resolved, the complex adaptation of the various social sectors and the emergency that the country is experiencing." The report also states that "the blow to inflation is, for Argentina, a true structural reform" and that "the struggle against inflation had much lower social and economic costs than those of less successful programs."

After highlighting the results of the "effort to maintain the purchasing power of wages" the report accepts that there has been "a nearly unavoidable deterioration under these circumstances," but it points out that it was relatively small and "that there are prospects for its recovery."

In the section on the foreign debt, the report indicates that "the refinancing of $16.65 billion has been achieved with the following breakdown: $13.65 billion to banks; $2.27 billion to the member governments of the Paris Club; and $640 million to other creditors."

Financing amounting to $4.912 billion has also been achieved and "it was provided by banks ($3.096 billion); multilateral credit organizations ($1.116 billion); and finally, $700 million by the member governments of the Paris Club." The report also stresses that "of this financing, $3.34 billion was used to pay interest abroad and the rest was used to amortize expired capital."

The message also analyzes the management of foreign credit and it indicates that "less than 30 percent of the income from our exports has been used to service the debt" and "to finance the fiscal deficit without having to resort to internal savings or the issuance of money." It then states that "from December 1983 to December 1985 the foreign debt grew by only 3.5 percent per year in nominal terms, while in real terms -- in other words, after deducting the reserves of the Argentine Central Bank -- it decreased by 3.9 percent."

Regarding the reserves, the presidential report states that "up to 12 December 1985, the reserves reached a level of $4.662 billion, and this allows us to look toward the immediate future without the urgency experienced during the first few months of this government." The message states that "the normalization of our external situation has allowed us to "practically put an end to the accumulated delays in the payments, thus permitting us to normalize foreign trade relations."

Regarding the international scene, it stresses that "Argentina, like the other Latin American countries, is supporting the consequences of international economic events that escape our control." It stresses that "the low prices that we receive for our exports and the high cost of external credits are derived from the policies of the developed countries that cannot dominate and manage their own imbalances."

The report indicates that "during the past year interest rates have had the tendency to decrease, thus reducing the burden of servicing the debt," but it warns that "there is no guarantee that this evolution will continue in the immediate future, although the impact of the fall in the price of oil can help in that direction." It believes that "the solution lies in a political dialogue between developing countries and industrialized countries, which will permit the creation of a new world economic framework without inflation, with stable prices, low interest rates, and criteria that will allow all nations to share in the enterprise of growth."

Concluding, it indicates that within the overall panorama of the economic sector "a return to inflation would be a return to injustice because it is the weaker countries that have less of a chance to defend themselves against inflation" and it then warns that "in the Argentina of today, the alternative to growth with stability is inflation with recession."

Defense Statement

PY020026 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1447 GMT 1 May 86

[Defense section of President Raul Alfonsin's message to Congress -- not included in his 1 May speech to Congress]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 May (NA) -- In the section dealing with the Defense Ministry, the report on the national executive branch to Congress states that "the foreign debt and the resulting shortage of foreign currency drastically restrict the purchases of military equipment" and that "the modernization of the Armed Forces is being carried out within the context of moderate economic growth, and the emphasis is being placed on technological development and professional training of the cadres." The report goes on to point out that "the main objective of defense is to improve the nation's capacity for decision-making within the framework of increasing self-determination, so as to permanently secure the nation's sovereignty, its territorial integrity, the life and freedom of its inhabitants, and the existence of democratic institutions."

It explains that "the capacity to anticipate" any type of conflicts so as to avoid or overcome them, together with the "military capability" to deal with "foreign theats or aggressions" constitute the "substance of the concept of national defense applicable to our society and our times." Within this framework "The Armed Forces must be looked upon as one of the means that the state has to implement its international foreign policy in the quest for national objectives that may require such means. These means, however, can never take the place of the policy itself."

The report adds: "Foreign aggression is the only valid responsibility of and field of action for national defense, thus this type of aggression must be clearly distinguished from sedition, rebellion, or insurrection, because all these conflicts fall into the realm of domestic security and have nothing to do with national defense." It points out: "Within the framework of defense policy, the joint utilization of all the Armed Forces branches so as to enhance their performance for the effective surveillance and protection of national integrity, is considered highly valuable."

In this regard, the report stresses: "The 'unity of command' for the deployment of means, irrespective of the area of operations and the branch to which the means may belong, is considered the key element for the leadership of the actions." It adds that "military planning is based on the unity of a strategic approach. It is the government's exclusive prerogative to choose the approach, and it will be the government's responsibility to establish the "area of conflict" and the "conflict or war hypothesis," and to "establish the appropriate list of priorities."

In connection with the economic aspect, the report states that "the government has reassigned the resources available, providing for a reduction of defense allocations, which obviously implies a reduction of military expenditures but this will be done without jeopardizing the needs and requirements of national defense." The report specified that "the foreign debt and the resulting shortage of foreign currency drastically restrict purchases of military equipment," which will "require special financing. The sale of units and equipment is being contemplated as a possible source of funds."

FORMER CHILEAN SENATOR ASSERTS PINOCHET WILL FALL

PY042251 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2205 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] La Paz, 3 May (EFE) -- Chilean Communist Senator Julieta Campuzano told EFE today that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet will fall this year because the people have decided to oust the dictatorship. Julieta Campuzano refused to acknowledge that she is a former senator, because she affirms that she is still a senator, since the people elected her, and "because I refuse to recognize the existence of the dictatorship." The senator, who lives in the Netherlands, is visiting La Paz to create in Bolivia a "Democratic Chile Movement," which already exists in more than 50 countries. The movement will be presided over by Mario Osses Quiroz, a former adviser to President Salvador Allende. "Nothing will discourage us Chileans in our struggle to promote the solidarity of all political and labor forces with the Chilean people," Campuzano told EFE.

In Buenos Aires, Julieta Campuzano will attend the First National Conference of the Argentine Committee for Solidarity with Chile, which will be held on 9 and 10 May. The conference will be presided over by Radical Deputy Hugo Prinsil and will be attended by numerous personalities of the Latin American Southern Cone. The senator affirmed that the popular opposition to Pinochet is increasing daily, because "he has answered all offers for a dialogue with the only think he has: arms."

While in Bolivia, Campuzano has met with Senator Nuflo Chavez Ortiz, deputy chairman of the governing party, the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement, and other political leaders of popular organizations. Julieta Campuzano said that "the Chilean popular forces support the just Bolivian request for an outlet to the sea."

GOVERNMENT REJECTS COB WAGE INCREASE DEMAND

PY032345 Paris AFP in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] La Paz, 2 May (AFP) -- Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada announced here today that the Bolivian Government will not heed the demands of the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB). Sanchez added that the government will not issue a wage increase and that it will comply with the new economic policy, which establishes a 30-percent salary increase for June. He noted that we could raise salaries by 1,000 percent but this would automatically raise the inflation rate.

The demands were submitted yesterday by the COB on the occasion of labor day. It seeks wage increases in keeping with present needs, a ban on the firing of workers, and the transfer of several private mining enterprises to the Bolivian Mining Corporation (Comibol). Sanchez de Lozada noted that there is willingness to negotiate with the COB, adding that it was through negotiations that the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), headed by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez, decided to support the new tax reform law.

COB leader Juan Lechin Oquendo noted that Planning Minister Sanchez has no authority to reject the COB petition since he is not the president. Lechin said that Sanchez is an important private businessman and the first thing he should do is return to the state the two mining companies he operates, a gold mine and a tin mine.

PRESIDENT SARNEY LEAVES FOR VISIT TO PORTUGAL

PY031650 Paris AFP in Spanish 1419 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Brasilia, 3 May (AFP) -- President Jose Sarney left this morning for Portugal to pay a week-long visit to that country. This is the first time President Sarney has traveled outside the American continent. Sarney did not hold back his emotions when he transfered the Presidency to Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies.

President Sarney is accompanied by his wife Dona Marli, Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre, Culture Minister Celso Furtado, Military Cabinet Chief General Rubens Bayma Denys, several congressmen, and the Portuguese actress [as received] and state deputy Ruth Escobar.

The Brazilian head of state will be in Portugal until next Friday, 8 May, when he will fly to Cape Verde for the first official visit of a Brazilian president to a Portuguese-speaking African country.

FUNARO DENIES ILL HEALTH, VIEWS ECONOMY

PY021751 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 May 86

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Dilson Funaro has denied the news published by a Sao Paulo newspaper that he might go on sick leave to receive medical treatment. Concerned about the possible consequences of the rumor on the national economy, the minister has asked the people not to believe this rumor, which he ascribed to speculation.

[Begin recording] I want to talk to the Brazilian people about this matter. In the first place, the dollar: We have a surplus, the Brazilian reserves are increasing, there is no reason whatsoever for the dollar to have reached such a high price on the black market. [Word indistinct] the people buy dollars at a low price and sell them to people who are not very well informed. People who are buying dollars now will lose money, because its price is too high, and there is no reason whatsoever for this. Second, savings accounts: They are the best investment in the country. [end recording]

The finance minister confirmed that the price freeze will continue and that the government is analyzing the possibility of reducing taxes for the productive sectors in order to prevent price increases. He denied that the government might adopt measures to reduce consumption and announced that inflation in April will show a negative figure. Funaro confirmed that the Banco do Brasil and the National Savings Bank will merge, and stressed that no measure will be hastily adopted.

RAILROAD WORKERS CALL INDEFINITE STRIKE IN RIO

PY301913 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Excerpts] More than 1 million people were left without transportation in Rio de Janeiro this morning due to indefinite railroad workers' strike which started at midnight. The railroad workers demand a salary equal to four times the minimum wage and a 15-percent increase for productivity. In real terms this would amount to a 45-percent increase. Before calling the strike, the railroad workers' union distributed leaflets explaining their reasons for the strike. The strike is also affecting freight services to Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais. According to railroad officials, it will cause daily losses of about 7 million cruzados in freight services alone.

POLICE, MILITARY RAID SANTIAGO SHANTYTOWNS

PY030347 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 May (EFE) -- All male residents of three shantytowns located in the Colin area, in northern Santiago, were arrested today and held at a gymnasium in a "dragnet" operation carried out by the Army, Carabineros, and Air Force. Heavily armed military and police troops with their faces painted black today occupied the shantytowns "Los Robles," "Las Aguilas," and "La Copa" in the predawn hours. In addition to keeping all males between 16 and 65 years of age in a gymnasium to check their police and political records, the forces raided all the houses in the three shantytowns. This operation continued until early evening. Those males without records were gradually released, while the others were sent to police precincts, where they will be placed at the disposal of the courts.

Similar operations were carried out on 28 and 29 May at the "La Legua," "El Pinar," and "Santa Julia" shantytowns in southeastern Santiago where, after the arrest of over 2,000 males, 300 were detained. The operations have been described as "routine" by the authorities, who have noted that they are being carried out "at the request of residents" to detect the presence of criminals.

General Rodolfo Stange, Carabineros commander and member of the Government Junta, has noted that the raids are carried out without violence. The Catholic Church, the Chilean Human Rights Commission, and opposition organizations have denounced these raids as "a violation of the dignity and rights of the poor" and as the promotion of a "warlike atmosphere" that is generated by the escalating violence that threatens to unleash civil war in the country.

MAY DAY ARRESTS REPORTED; CNT'S BUSTOS RELEASED

PY021513 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0403 GMT 2 May 86

[Excerpts] Santiago, 1 May (EFE) -- More than 1,000 arrests, hundreds of wounded, raids, blackouts, barricades, and the occupation of working class neighborhoods by military forces occurred during May Day celebrations in Chile. According to the latest police reports, issued late last night, a total of 985 persons were arrested in Santiago. Of this total, 951 were charged with disrupting public order and the rest with violating the state security law and the antiterrorist law.

The repression of demonstrators in other Chilean cities, however, caused the unofficial number of arrested people to rise. Several of the arrested people were released after their identity and address were proved and were summoned to appear before the local police court charged with "promoting disorder in the streets."

One of the persons arrested and later released was Manuel Bustos, vice president of the National Workers Command (CNT) and president of the National Union Coordinating Board, which is part of the CNT.

Among the union headquarters that have been raided are the CNT, headed by Rodolfo Seguel, where several people were arrested, and the Chilean Teachers Union Association (AGECH), where, according to its president, Jorge Pavez, in addition to several arrests, documents were seized.

The headquarters of the National Association of Government Workers (ANEF) was surrounded by military officers, but those participating in the 1 May celebrations inside the building managed to leave after their leaders held a dialogue with the officers, who allowed them to go. Among those arrested is the opposition announcer Rene Largo Farias, who was taken to hospital with heart problems after being beaten up by Carabineros, and Ricardo Hormazabal, secretary general of the bank workers confederation, who sustained injuries to the head when he was beaten up by policemen.

NICARAGUAN REFUGEES WILL NOT BE RETURNED

PA021725 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Apr 86 p 6A

[Text] The Colombian Government will in no case return to Nicaragua any of the eight citizens of that country who arrived in San Andres and requested protection, apparently fleeing obligatory recruitment in their country. Deputy Foreign Minister Guillermo Fernandez de Soto said yesterday that the Colombian Government will take the usual steps in connection with the Nicaraguan citizens' request, whether for political asylum or refugee status.

He explained that no formal asylum request has been received yet, and for this reason he refused to provide details about the stand that the Colombian Government would take in this regard. He added that if they are merely requesting refuge, the appropriate Foreign Ministry committee will handle the case in coordination with the UN body operating in Colombia, which would be charged with finding a place in which they could settle.

If the Nicaraguans request political asylum, the government will begin studying the request, and if the necessary requirements are met they will be granted asylum. He explained that, in any event, they will not be returned to Nicaragua, as the principle of non-returnability exists in these cases.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS U.S. EXTRADITION REQUEST

PA030415 Paris AFP in Spanish 0316 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Bogota, 2 May (AFP) -- It was officially announced today that the Colombian Government has turned down a request by U.S. authorities to extradite three Colombian drug traffickers. The resolution, announced today by the Presidency of the Republic and the Justice Ministry, benefits Juan Gomez, Armando de Jesus Velez, and Luis Antonio Rodriguez.

Referring to the request to extradite the first two, the government document recalls that the Supreme Court of Justice had issued an unfavorable ruling in June and August 1985, respectively. Regarding the third man, it is stated that no evidence was included in the file sent by the U.S. judges to prove that he is currently living in this country. It has also not been definitely established that he is a Colombian citizen.

Finally, Colombia accepted the U.S. waiver concerning the request to extradite another Colombian accused by drug trafficking, Fernando Carmona, as he was recently arrested in the United States.

REPORTAGE ON RADIO NANDUTI, HOSPITAL ATTACKS

Radio Director Interviewed

PY031440 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 May 86

[Telephone interview with Radio Nanduti Director Humberto Rubin by unidentified reporter on 3 May -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Humberto, good morning.

[Rubin] Good morning, colleagues from Radio Primero de Marzo, good morning. At 0245 [0645 GMT] five masked and armed individuals attacked the transmission plant of Radio Nanduti, located in San Lorenzo. Guns in hand, these people overpowered the uniformed police sergeant who was guarding the plant. They caught the guard while he was making his rounds, disarmed, handcuffed, and gagged him with a bandanna, a red one, I was told. The group then entered the plant, destroyed equipment, cut wires, and left, taking some Motorola equipment with them.

That was all. I have just talked to prosecutor, Dr Benito Llanes. He will come to the radio station. Even if we are back on the air in 2 or 3 hours, I no longer have guarantees for my life, my equipment, or against other attacks. The situation is really very serious, because I have been calling the police since last night to report the many threats which have been made and to say that one guard alone would not be sufficient. I called police stations many times last night. This morning I asked for some policemen to come with me to San Lorenzo, because to go to Calle-I [location of transmission plant] that early in the morning...[these and subsequent ellipses indicate break in thought pattern as Rubin speaks very emotionally]...I asked the police to please accompany me, but no one went with me. I am now with civilians here...and at this time I believe that a police officer and a sergeant are at the transmission plant in San Lorenzo. The thing is that neither my family, nor I, nor my radio can be really safe with a single guard. It is a difficult situation, and it is getting more serious.

[Reporter] The thing to do is to request a court injunction to protect you, your family, the radio station and the transmission plant.

[Rubin] Certainly. Listening to them [opponents] and reading the LA TARDE item yesterday about what this Mr Zaracho [Colorado Party youth adviser] said, that they are already out on the streets, that the forces are already in action, that he knows that the forces were out on Tuesday, that Radio Nanduti is their enemy and that I want someone's head. I do not want anyone's head, but they want mine. I don't know if you have read the LA TARDE item. This means that the situation is extremely grave, really grave. I thank you for this phone call; and this is not only an attack on Nanduti. I believe that the newscasts have already depicted what all of us are suffering.

My call to the prosecutor was to see what guarantees my family, I, my people have...so that this situation will not, as I am expecting, have a fatal outcome.

[Reporter] In the history of radio broadcasting in Paraguay, Rubin, have similar actions taken place?

[Rubin] No...no...and besides I don't feel very well, I can't recall these things right now. I don't remember anything like this happening since I have had this radio station. During the revolutions, anything happened...but...as defenseless I am now... I don't have anyone to ask for help...I had to talk to prosecutor, Benito Llanes and he promised to come to the studio immediately.

[Reporter] Summing up: Five masked men entered the Radio Nanduti transmission plant in San Lorenzo at 0245, destroyed equipment, and incapacitated Radio Nanduti.

[Rubin] Exactly, and they took some Motorola equipment that makes the connection with us, here...well, I hope my phones will continue to operate so that I can at least communicate with the outside. I am trying to call Argentina, but so far I have been unable to do so. I do not know if the lines are busy or what...maybe I will have to ask for the cooperation of my colleagues at Primero de Marzo or other media to help in some way.

[Reporter] We are here to help in any way, Humberto Rubin.

[Rubin] Thank you, thank you very much.

AFP Reports Actions

PY031820 Paris AFP in Spanish 1625 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Asuncion, 3 May (AFP) -- Nearly a hundred followers [number as received] of the regime of General Alfredo Stroessner today destroyed the transmission plant of the opposition radio, Radio Nanduti, and later went to the medical school's Hospital de Clinicas where they beat physicians, nurses and students. This information has been obtained from witnesses in Asuncion.

The Catholic radio station Radio Charitas, which this morning reported details of these attacks, has also received threats of attacks. Its director, Javier Arancon, and its head announcer, Guillermo Yaluk, have received death threats, according to their own reports.

Communications with Hospital de Clinicas has been difficult in the past hours, and the local media could not provide any information because access to the area has been blocked by uniformed police, several journalists reported. People in the hospital neighborhood have reported that many people seem to have been wounded, but did not confirm any fatalities.

In a phone call to AFP, one of the hospital physicians reported that the assault group, made up of 100 or 150 members of the progovernment Colorado Party and headed by Ramon Aquino [Colorado Party Chapter 14 president], said that many people have been wounded in the hospital neighborhood. He said that the hospital patients were not disturbed, and added that no one, not even the wounded, could enter or leave the hospital because policemen were standing guard in front of the building.

A meeting of students from all the university schools was scheduled to take place today in the building of the School of Medicine located across the street from Hospital de Clinicas. Students of both the Catholic and National Universities hoped to protest against the violence the government has exercised against the opposition, particularly in recent days.

Since early this morning, the security forces kept physicians from entering Hospital de Clinicas and going to work, but permitted the entrance of thugs from the Colorado Party who destroyed and ran over anything that stood in their way, Radio Charitas reported.

According to witnesses who managed to leave the hospital area, physicians and nurses who sought refuge from the horde of assailants were brutally attacked.

Radio Nanduti director-owner Humberto Rubin also reported that he received many death threats on Friday afternoon, 4 days after the attack that destroyed part of the radio station building.

In a statement to AFP, Rubin said that the intervention of the United Nations was necessary in Paraguay, because there are no longer any guarantees for lives since the progovernment hordes are acting with impunity, thus giving the impression that the uniformed police forces are being complaisant.

Radio Nanduti had its telephone lines cut today, and it has not been on the air since 0545 [0945 GMT], the time when it normally begins broadcasting. Rubin said that the losses run into millions of guaranies and that he does not know when his radio will resume operations.

The assaults on what political analysts consider bastions of the opposition -- the School of Medicine and Radio Nanduti -- took place a few hours after the Colorado Party held a rally that was attended by President Alfredo Stroessner. At this rally 5,000 participants promised the president to go out on the streets to squash the rebellion.

In messages read over Radio Charitas, some priests called on the government loyalists who are committing terrorist acts with impunity to come back to their senses and repeatedly said that this radio station can be attacked at any time because it does not have police protection.

Radio Charitas announcers made an urgent call on the Paraguayan Red Cross to assist the wounded who are lying around the Hospital de Clinicas because no one can get close to that area.

Photographers Taken Away

PY031555 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1400 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] [Unidentified announcer] We are going to talk with a reporter who was inside Hospital de Clinicas. Can you please tell us what you saw inside Hospital de Clinicas?

[Reporter] Well, we were standing on the sidewalk across from the main entrance of the hospital when for the second time -- I was not there the first time -- a group of people in civilian clothes headed by Ramon Aquino [president of Colorado Party Chapter 14], and obviously under the influence of alcohol, walked through the hospital, shouting, carrying sticks and pieces of electrical wire but did not enter the sick wards. They stood in front of the surgery ward for a while and went to the Pediatrics Department and other areas. They shouted and intimidated people and the few physicians. Only personnel on duty last night were there. The morning shift did not show up, the nurses did not show up. There are only two physicians. The kitchen help are not there. As Dr Balanza said, at this time the hospital looks like there is a state of war.

[Announcer] Have you seen anyone being beaten?

[Reporter] No, no. Apparently, they did not beat anyone.

[Announcer] What happened to the photographers from the various newspapers?

[Reporter] I was with a colleague on the esplanade in front of the hospital, together with some foreign correspondents. The drivers and the photographers walked up closer. Ramon Aquino and his group than called to the journalists and photographers outside the hospital and seized their film and cassettes. We were permitted to walk around. The journalists went to talk to the physicians, and the photographers and drivers were ordered to stand back. Later we were told that the photographers were put in a police van with license No 1611. It seems that the mobile units from the newspapers were also taken away.

[Announcer] Do you know where they were taken?

[Reporter] We did not see. We were only told that they were taken away. We don't know anything else.

[Announcer] So, there is a possibility that they have been arrested or only ordered to leave the area, correct?

[Reporter] Exactly. But they were taken away in a police van. They were not allowed to drive the newspapers' cars.

[Announcer] We have just talked with a colleague from the DIARIO NOTICIAS newspaper who recounted what she saw at Hospital de Clinicas.

'Tense Calm' Prevails

PA041329 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0652 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Asuncion, 4 May (REUTER) -- A climate of tense calm prevailed this morning in this capital of 500,000 inhabitants, after it was reported that several radio stations reportedly received anonymous threats and that Radio Nanduti was silenced for 14 hours by the action of five heavily armed, masked men who raided the broadcasting facility. Early yesterday police cordoned off the perimeter of the Hospital de Clinicas to prevent a gathering of university students from several schools who planned to stage a march to protest against the violence used by the security forces to repress the opposition demonstrations in the past few days.

A group of civilians who support the government of President Alfredo Stroessner appeared in that area armed with clubs, nightsticks, and wire barricades to prevent the march, but they were unable to do anything.

The attitude of the civilians and the police not adopting measures to stop them made Asuncion inhabitants go home early in view of the possibility of being attacked.

What contributed more to the attitude of the people was the commando-type operation of five hooded persons who, the previous morning, raided the broadcasting facility of Radio Nanduti, which is characterized by its criticism of the government, making off with electronic equipment that is vital to the radio broadcasts.

The hooded persons left no trace and proved to be expert in their task, because they took parts that prevented the radio station from broadcasting for 14 hours. Subsequently, Radio Nanduti resumed its activities in a subdued manner.

"We are again on the air and will continue to be on the air until the next attack," Humberto Rubin, director of the radio station, stated the minute broadcast resumed. Last Tuesday 100 men who chanted slogans favoring the government attacked the central studios of that radio station, which was damaged, although its broadcasts were not affected.

In upper government circles Nanduti is frequently accused of aiding "subversion" by resorting to an alleged distortion of facts and highlighting negative aspects of the national situation.

Radio Charitas of the Franciscan priests has also received anonymous notes threatening to destroy its facilities if it continues reporting on developments at hospitals and clinics and on the attempt on Nanduti, as charged by Father Javier Arancon, the station's director. Arancon said that he had consulted several Paraguayan bishops and decided to continue his broadcasts. "We cannot stop broadcasting, we cannot remain silent," said the station director while on the air.

The afternoon newspapers ULTIMA HORA and LA TARDE broadly reported yesterday afternoon on the latest developments, including editorials calling for an end to the violence and a peaceful solution.

During the last 2 weeks a number of street demonstrations have been staged against the government in Asuncion. The government just celebrated the 32d anniversary of Stroessner's accession to power. The demonstrations have been harshly supressed by the police, with a toll of approximately 20 wounded and many arrests. Several official spokesmen have warned that these incidents, which have no precedent in the last three decades, are the work of "subversive elements" and that "no disruption of order and peace" will be allowed.

Leaders of the ruling Colorado Party said that, if necessary, they will send their party members to the streets to restore order and Defense Minister [as received] General Gaspar Martinez said publicly that "the Armed Forces are on the alert and ready to defend our country's institutional system with unflinching determination." For their part, leaders of the opposition groups have expressed the opinion that the latest developments clearly indicate that the Stroessner administration rejects the possibility of a democratic opening and is resorting to violence to keep the dissidents from gaining more ground in the political and trade union areas.

Laymen Promote Nonviolence

PY042342 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 2310 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] A group of laymen is organizing a general tolling of church bells in the capital and invites everyone to join from their homes by beating pots and pans tomorrow, Monday, from 1200 to 1210 to support nonviolence.

MILITARY PREPARED TO 'NEUTRALIZE' SUBVERSIVES

PY031630 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 May 86 p 9

[Text] President Stroessner and his cabinet yesterday analyzed the recent events (protests and demonstrations) which have occurred in Asuncion. This seems to be the first thorough and general analysis made at a high government level of the various outbreaks of street protests which have become more serious because of the harsh police repression.

The meetings of the ministers with the president are usually a routine affair during which the former report on the activities in their respective areas and receive general guidelines from the president. Yesterday's meeting, however, seems to have been dedicated mainly to asserting the government position regarding the recent events.

The government position is that this is not a simple salary demand, but rather an attempt to disturb public order; that the government is firmly determined to contain the disorders and pressures that may occur; and that both the Colorado Party and the Armed Forces are ready to take to the streets in support of the government. The clear guidelines that resulted from yesterday's meeting show that the government is not willing to continue tolerating demonstrations by the people and that it has more than enough resources to prevent them. The government warns that "it is not suitable to exert pressures, because the consequences may be unpleasant," adding that "the problems can be prevented."

After yesterday's meeting, Minister J. Eugenio Jaquet said that the student movements "have basically served to consolidate the forces of the government. The Colorado Party has now taken a hand in the matter and given specific instructions for a general alert to all the Colorado people."

The Armed Forces have also taken a clear position in support of their commander in chief. Jaquet said: "They have said through their spokesman that they need only a hint to start operations to neutralize all the subversive forces."

Perhaps there is not complete agreement at the cabinet level regarding the origin of the agitation. Jaquet categorically said: "Apparently it responds to a media-managed [teledirigida] coordination to subvert public order. This is well-known by the public, and we cannot ignore it."

In turn, Minister Adan Godoy Jiminez referred rather to "protest demonstrations, but if analyzed calmly and reasonably, the problems originating from this series of clashes between the protesting demonstrators and the police can be prevented."

POLICE COMMUNIQUE ON REPRESSING DEMONSTRATIONS

PY030113 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 2215 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The office of the chief of police, through its Public Relations Department, has issued an extensive communique. Herewith are excerpts of this communique:

The police chief's office informs all citizens that in keeping with those laws that guarantee and safeguard public order and peace, it will continue to repress any hostile action that threatens to disrupt public order and the security of citizens. Any person who promotes the holding of demonstrations or any other violent actions on the streets will be categorically repressed in keeping with the powers established in the law. The police will defend order and peace. They will also ensure the regular attendance of workers at their respective jobs, the normal attendance of students at schools and universities, and the holding of all legal activities by the population. In order to do this, the police will act firmly and decisively to safeguard the rights of all citizens and the strict fulfillment of their duties.

The communique adds: The police denounce the existence of well-known groups of professional agitators and subversives, who are subtly organizing young students and persons from low-income sectors in an alleged struggle of social and political claims for their own selfish and unspeakable goals. In so doing they are dragging these unwary people into crime, thus endangering their own lives as well as those of their fellow human beings.

In view of this, the police ask all citizens to act properly during their everyday activities and to comply with all regulations inforce, the purpose of which is to safeguard citizens' rights, which will be staunchly defended by the police institution.

The communique adds: The mass media, through journalists, have the duty to inform citizens of the negative consequences brought about by disorders by reporting objectively the activities of agitators and subversives, and by avoiding subjective or biased reports that may contribute to a false appraisal of those events, the objective of which is to disrupt public order. The police chief's office warns the press in general that it will continue to respect its privileges but that it is demanding and will continue to demand categorical respect for police authorities as defenders of the peace that is prevailing throughout the national territory.

The police will severely repress all unauthorized street demonstrations so that they may not be used by agitators and subversives who promote alleged social claims and better living conditions, which are false and are being used to fulfill their selfish objectives. The police request parents hold instructive dialogues with their children, particularly those who are still studying, so that they may abstain from participating in demonstrations hostile to the established order under penalty of suffering the consequences of their participation in street demonstrations, which try to promote unrest and uneasiness among citizens.

The communique adds: The police condemn the interference of foreign agitators, from anywhere on the political spectrum, who promote disorder and disruption of order and peace; and categorically repudiate the antipatriotic action of their followers who strive to divide Paraguayan citizens. As part of their public functions, the police will be inflexible and rigorous. They will repress once and for all the perverse plans of political agitators, who are cleverly disguised among Paraguayan students and workers.

Consequently, all citizens and the public in general are hereby warned about the guidelines that the police will follow to enforce the law.

[Signed] Asuncion's police chief's office, 2 May 1986, through the Asuncion police Public Relations Department.

COLORADOS, MILITARY EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR STROESSNER

PY020325 Paris AFP in Spanish 2341 GMT 1 May 86

[Excerpt] Asuncion, 1 May (AFP) -- According to a note released today in Asuncion, the Armed Forces and the Colorado Party firmly support the decision by General Alfredo Stroessner's regime to repress the demonstrations carried out by the opposition. During a meeting of the Colorado Party Executive Board the majority of its members, except dissidents Angel Seifart and Carlos Romero Arza, signed a manifesto supporting the government action and repudiating the outbreak of violence aimed at upsetting the political and institutional normality.

The manifesto also exhorts members of the Colorado Party to be alert in the face of provocations by an extremist sector of the opposition, which aims to subvert peace, order, and tranquillity.

The Colorado Party leadership accused the opposition of inciting violence and attacking officials in demand of salary increases. Subversives are taking advantage of the wage issue. The party also justified the violent police action against the demonstrators to prevent unauthorized rallies. Defense Minister General German Martinez stated that he went to the meeting of the party's executive board to deliver the Armed Forces message of encouragement and firmness, supporting the government's action and especially its policies implemented by Stroessner to fight the demonstrations. General Martinez told the Colorado Party leadership that Paraguay is facing a type of subversion identical to that of the 1947 civil war and assured that peace will prevail at any most. He added: We should not allow the subversives to take over the streets. The streets belong to the national government, the Colorado Party, and all the people advocating peace.

DOCTORS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON ARREST OF COLLEAGUE

PY022110 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 2033 GMT 2 May 86

[Communique issued by doctors and employees of the Hospital de Clinicas on 2 May, read by (Hugo Richer)]

[Text] To the people in general: The arrest of Dr Carlos Filizola represents an attack on the Hospital de Clinicas and the association of doctors, nurses, and employees of the Hospital de Clinicas. Any attempt to charge him with any crime will have our categorical rejection. The Association of Doctors expresses full solidarity with Dr Filizola, denouncing his arrest, and charging the police authorities of being responsible for his physical integrity. The Association of Doctors calls on all members to hold a meeting in view of this new emergency situation. Signed: Dr Jose Zarza, vice president; Dr Jose Bellasai, president.

Begin Strike

PY022126 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 2035 GMT 2 May 86

[Interview with Dr Jose Zarza, vice president of the Doctors' Association of Hospital de Clinicas in Asuncion on 2 May -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] The meeting called for this afternoon just ended, has it not, Doctor Zarza?

[Zarza] Yes, the meeting just ended. It was attended by about 300 peole. I want to stress this to show the spontaneous and immediate answer and the firm position of our fellow doctors and workers, in view of the arrest of Dr Carlos Filizola. It has been decided at this meeting to begin a stoppage of the academic and medical care sectors from now until 0900 tomorrow, when a joint session of the Center for Medical Students, the Association of Nurses and Employees of Hospital de Clinicas, the Association of Doctors of the Hospital de Clinicas will be held. During this meeting we will report on this situation of our fellow doctor and will decide on the steps to be taken to seek his release.

EXILE LAINO URGES MILITARY TO SEEK TRANSITION

PY261933 Paris AFP in Spanish 0224 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Asuncion, 25 Apr (AFP) -- In a statement to AFP in the Argentine border town of Clorinda, exiled Paraguayan opposition leader Domingo Laino said that the Paraguayan Armed Forces must commit themselves as soon as possible to a democratic and bloodless transition to democracy.

The leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), whom the government exiled 4 years ago, predicted that President General Alfredo Stroessner will be forced to leave the country in a hurry if the civilians, who have been displaying a growing courage and drive, lose their fear of government repressive forces. The bearded opposition politician and his wife Rafaela Guanes met the AFP correspondent in a small hotel in Clorinda, an Argentine city on the border with Paraguay, some 45 minutes from Asuncion. Laino said that he is waiting for Gen Stroessner to issue orders allowing him to return to Paraguay. I would like very much to go back to my country, the politician emphasized. He added that he had not committed any crime.

Asked why the Paraguayan Government was not letting him return yet, Laino said that he did not know. Maybe they are afraid, but I cannot imagine why they should be. The only obvious thing is that this regime is coming to an end, because even the members of the ruling party are beginning to realize that the formula is obsolete and that it goes against the trend of Paraguayan history and that of Latin America, Laino said.

After the publication of his book "The Merchant General" in December 1982 in which he compared the murdered Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle to President Stroessner, the opposition leader was arrested and expelled, while the political police seized the copies of his book. Laino said that the Catholic Church had taken an important step by agreeing to mediate in a national dialogue among all national political and social forces despite government opposition. The government had claimed that any confrontation outside the parliament or elections was subversive. Laino mentioned the Paraguayan Armed Forces as another key factor in the quest for a transition, in view of the examples set by the military in several Latin American countries in the process of reinstatement of democracy. He added that the Armed Forces played a key role in the transition of Brazilian, Argentine, Uruguayan, Peruvian, Haitian and Philippine dictatorships. He emphasized that in Brazil, General Figueiredo allowed transition through Tancredo Neves and Jose Sarney and that in Argentina, General Alejandro Lanusse surrendered power to Juan Domingo Peron, and later General Reynaldo Bignone was compelled to turn over power to the civilians through Raul Alfonsin because of the defeat in the Malvinas war. Laino recalled that in Peru, Francisco Morales Bermudez reinstated democracy by turning over power to Fernando Belaunde Terry, and in the Philippines the revolt of the military allowed Corazon Aquino to become president.

He concluded by saying that the civilians never headed any transition in these countries and stated that in Paraguay the parties that make up the National Accord, which abstains from any participation in government or elections, will be unable to handle the transition to democracy because there are many domestic problems. He indicated that the first civilian president to come out of free elections, once Stroessner's era is over, will have to be a member of one of the two traditional Paraguayan parties: the Colorado Party or the Liberal Party, which will both celebrate their 100th anniversaries in 1987 [date as received].

Laino, who claimed to be progressive, explained that Stroessner has managed to retain power for 32 years on the basis of the divide-and-conquer principle, illegal deals which are no longer profitable because of the severe economic crisis of the country, and the overall Latin American situation in which there is no more room for dictatorial regimes. Laino praised the attitude of the United States, which became interested in Paraguay when it realized that the Latin American connection of heroin boss Auguste Ricord did not collapse after his death but rather became diversified through production of marijuana and cocaine in Paraguay. Drug trafficking is the common point that all totalitarian regimes have and one of the reasons they should be eradicated, Laino said. He also said that the regime in power in Paraguay for over 30 years is of national socialist leanings.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS DEBT PAYMENTS UNTIL 28 JULY

PY050231 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0109 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Lima, 4 May (TELAM-EFE) -- Central Reserve Bank [BCR] President Leonel Figueroa today said here that the Peruvian Government will not make any payments to the IMF or to any foreign bank until 28 July. Figueroa said that the payments to be suspended are part of the country's foreign debt, which totals $14 billion in principal and interest.

He also announced that the BCR's international net reserves have stood at $1.5 billion for the past few months. Figueroa today returned from Cuba with Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro, who went to that country to discuss issues related to the Peruvian-Cuban cooperation agreement.

Figueroa said that at the Tokyo summit the leaders of the seven most developed countries should understand that only by reducing interest rates and by opening their markets to exports from debtor countries will they give these countries a chance to repay their foreign debt.

On 28 April Peru paid $17.7 million to foreign banks. Deputy Economy Minister Gustavo Saberbein said this payment was made on account of the $400 million in interest owed to foreign banks. Saberbein said this payment was made in cash, because the economy is growing and inflation is declining because of the measures adopted by the government.

PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON VISIT TO CUBA

PA041737 Paris AFP in Spanish 1528 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Lima, 4 May (AFP) -- Prime Minister Luis Alva said here today that the presidents of the Cartagena Consensus have asked the seven large industrialized countries meeting in Tokyo, in a message, to lower bank interest rates and open their markets to Latin American products. Alva, who is also economy and finance minister, added that "should these two points not be accepted, it would be very difficult for Latin American debtor countries to pay their foreign debts." He said this upon returning today from Havana after an official visit.

Commenting on his mission in Cuba, he pointed out that by express decision of President Fidel Castro a fishing agreement signed by the two countries was extended for 6 months; in keeping with that agreement, two Cuban ships are operating in Peruvian waters.

Alva, who placed special emphasis on the work done by the two trawlers, said that 100 percent of the fish catch as well as flour production will be for Peru and to benefit the Peruvian people. He pointed out that Cuba will soon send a field hospital, which has a 100-bed capacity, requested by the Peruvian Government that will be installed in Cuzco, which was seriously affected by an earthquake a few weeks ago.

He said Cuba will also offer technological help for the cultivation and industrialization of citrus fruits in sugar complexes in northern Peru and to develop a cattle-raising industry and sugar cane pulp.

He concluded, saying: In general terms, our mission "in Havana was very positive; Castro showed his desire to cooperate with Peru on any level."

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS MEET IN GUATEMALA

PA040331 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2343 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 May (DPA) -- The Central American vice presidents began a meeting this afternoon in Guatemala City to put the finishing touches on the agenda to be discussed by the presidents of the area during their summit to be held in Esquipulas, in the northeastern sector of Guatemala, on 24 and 25 May.

Jaime Rosenthal, first designate of the Honduran Presidency (vice president), and Vice Presidents Rodolfo Castillo Claramount (El Salvador), Sergio Ramirez Mercado (Nicaragua), Armando Arauz (Costa Rica), and Roberto Carpio Nicolle (Guatemala), as well as Jorge Manuel Dengo, Costa Rican vice president-elect who will be sworn in on 8 May, will meet through noon tomorrow to discuss important topics such as the creation of a Central American parliament and the process of integration of the Central American isthmus.

The meeting being held at the Camino Real Hotel in Guatemala City is presided over by the vice president of the host country, Roberto Carpio Nicolle. Prior to the meeting, Vice President Carpio Nicolle said that "the five nations are willing to talk about the creation of a Central American parliament with the purpose of uniting their efforts for peace on the isthmus."

Carpio Nicolle said that "Central America needs peace and the necessary conditions to consolidate our democracies." He added that "the struggle for a common cause would be appropriate to reach agreements that will favor our peoples." Carpio Nicolle said that during the days that the presidential summit is being held, Esquipulas will become the capital city of Central America. This is the first important step promoted by Guatemala and all the presidents of the area are willing to attend this summit.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Vice President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount said that the presidential summit in Esquipulas is highly significant and that it surpasses every initiative made in the past. He said that possibilities of great importance will come from this summit "especially if together we reach a political decision and will."

A press conference has been scheduled for tomorrow at the conclusion of the meeting. During the press conference, the issues discussed will be announced.

Approve Summit Agenda

PA050028 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2222 GMT 4 May 86

[By Mario Rolando Sierra]

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Today in Guatemala, the Central American vice presidents approved the agenda for the presidential "summit" in Esquipulas, convoked "to solve our own problems," Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle said. The Central American vice presidents deliberated from Friday until 1430 today.

According to the agreements reached by the vice presidents today, the topics of discussion in Esquipulas on 24 and 25 May will be the following:

1. A Central American parliament and its importance in the negotiations regarding the political, economic, social, and collective security problems of Central America.

2. Contadora and the mechanisms for political negotiations and regional security.

3. Restructuring of the process of Central American integration (social and economic aspects), necessary procedures and goals to establish cooperation with the EEC, and aspects of a future Central American economic and social community.

4. Strengthening intraregional trade, and a basis for solutions of the foreign debt problem.

The joint communique, signed by the area's vice presidents, states that the agenda that will be discussed by the region's presidents was approved "after frank and cordial discussions, within a framework of Central American fraternity."

It is expected that the topics of discussion "will contribute to secure peace, democracy, stability, and security in the Central American countries." The vice presidents issued "the final draft agenda, which will be submitted to the Central American presidents for their approval, as well as the basic documents outlining the Central American states' political positions." The political position of the countries and the governments of the area is based on "active efforts to develop instruments that will facilitate peaceful coexistence among the isthmian states, as well as their subsequent political, economic and social development."

Initially, the topics of the agenda were discussed by Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle, Salvadoran Vice President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Costa Rican Vice President Armando Arauz and Costa Rican Vice President-elect Jorge Manuel Dengo.

Later, Honduran Vice President Jaime Rosenthal, who had problems with his plane due to a forest fire that did not allow his plane to take off, finally arrived in Guatemala City.

The presidential "summit" that will be attended by Vinicio Cerezo from Guatemala, Jose Napoleon Duarte from El Salvador, Jose Azcona Hoyo from Honduras, Daniel Ortega from Nicaragua, Oscar Arias Sanchez from Costa Rica, and Eric Arturo Delvalle from Panama will begin with an inaugural ceremony on 24 May at noon. Guatemalan Vice President Carpio Nicolle confirmed that delegates from Contadora and the United States will attend the Esquipulas meeting "as observers."

In addition, Roberto Carpio Nicolle said: "Today is a very significant day, because six vice presidents have established the guidelines to seek the solution of the Central American problems on their own." Carpio Nicolle also thanked the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela) for its efforts and interest "directed to attain peace among us, and permit the development of our economy and politics." However, Carpio Nicolle pointed out that regarding the treaty for regional peace "each country will do what it thinks is suitable."

Contadora has convoked all the Central American nations to sign the document, which has been under negotiation for 3 years, on 6 June.

All the Central American countries have pledged to sign the document without condition, except Nicaragua, which argues that the United States must first end its support for the contras.

Honduras, Nicaragua on Advisers

PA050014 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2336 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran and Nicaraguan Governments willing to withdraw the foreign military advisers in their countries when the Contadora peace document is signed. The statement was issued today by Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado and Honduran Presidential-designate Jaime Rosenthal, following a meeting with their Central American colleagues in Guatemala City this weekend.

Ramirez Mercado said that the peace process proposed by the Contadora and Support Groups "is subject to the condition that my country's physical integrity will be respected, given that it is currently withstanding U.S. aggression." Nevertheless, he reasserted that his government is willing to sign the document, as stated during the recent foreign ministers' meeting in Panama City, "however, the clauses must be respected." The Nicaraguan vice president again asserted that the obstacle they foresee to the signing of the document proposed by Contadora (Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela), "is the threat of U.S. aggression." He said that if a consensus is ever achieved among the Central American nations, "Nicaragua would be willing to withdraw 700 foreign military advisers," but did not specify the advisers' nationality. He added: "The foreign advisers are not necessary to defend Nicaragua's sovereignty; however, my country thinks it is essential for the Central American geopolitical pledges to be fulfilled."

Jaime Rosenthal, presidential-designate in Honduras, indicated that the Honduran Government requested United States' military assistance "so that our resources may be used for the country's development." He added: "There is no possibility that we will have a war between Honduras and Nicaragua, because our problems are of an internal nature." He added that "24 hours after the Contadora Document's signing, Honduras will withdraw the U.S. military assistance, which includes between 800 and 900 advisers."

COSTA RICA

MINISTER ON POSSIBLE DECREASE IN U.S. AID

PA042013 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Foreign Minister-designate Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto has told "Impact News" that it is very probable that U.S. aid to Costa Rica will be reduced during the upcoming administration. The minister-designate said that the aid reduction will affect not only Costa Rica but also other countries due to a law approved in the United States called the Gramm-Rudman Bill. He said this bill orders a proportional reduction in all budgets in order to gradually eliminate the enormous U.S. fiscal deficit, which is $200 billion.

The future foreign minister said that now that Guatemala has a democratic government, logically it is among those countries receiving greater aid from the United States. Since the foremost power has a budget for Central America, the inclusion of Guatemala proportionately reduces the share going to other countries in the isthmus.

Foreign Minister-designate Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto reiterated that the decrease in aid has nothing to do with political issues advocated by Dr Arias Sanchez.

AREA PRESIDENTS TO ATTEND INAUGURATION

PA030227 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2346 GMT 2 May 86

[Excerpt] San Jose, 2 May (ACAN-EFE) -- It was officially reported today that 10 Latin American presidents have confirmed their attendance at the inauguration of Costa Rican President-elect Oscar Arias on 8 May. The commission for the transfer of power has reported that 75 delegations have confirmed their presence at Oscar Arias' presidential investiture. Sixty-two of these missions are government delegations. Ten of these are headed by Latin American presidents, two by vice-presidents, and two by deputy prime ministers.

The heads of state who have confirmed their attendance include Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, Julio Maria Sanguinetti of Uruguay, Alan Garcia of Peru, Belisario Betancur of Colombia, and Eric Delvalle of Panama. These countries and Mexico, Venezuela, and Brazil form the Contadora and Support Groups, which are making efforts for the pacification of Central America.

Leon Febres Cordero of Ecuador, Salvador Jorge Blanco of the Dominican Republic, Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala, Jose Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador, and Jose Azcona Hoyo of Honduras have also confirmed their attendance.

A presidents' "summit meeting" to give new impetus to the Contadora Group negotiations is anticipated.

UNO DENOUNCES ATTACK BY 'COMMUNISTS' IN SAN JOSE

PA042036 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] The Information and Press Commission of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity [UNO], reported that on 1 May an UNO group protesting in front of the Nicaraguan Embassy in our country was attacked by a group of communists organized by the Nicaraguan Embassy, who threw sticks and stones and shouted slogans at them. UNO members pointed out that several women and comrades were hit and injured by the sticks and stones thrown at them by the group of communists.

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE COMMENTS ON PEACE PROCESS

PA041939 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 May 86

[Report on an "exclusive" interview granted by President Jose Napoleon Duarte to Imevision with Epismenio Ibarra, NOTIMEX correspondent for Central America; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Ibarra] President Jose Napoleon Duarte said that the insurgency in his country is to blame for the failure of attempts to end the war through dialogue.

He said that his government wants to achieve peace, and this will be possible only through his strategy called democratic revolution. On the future of the war currently being waged in this country, he said:

[Duarte] Whoever wins the people's support will win this war on all levels: economic, political, social, military, and international. Therefore, the most important work is not being done on the battlefield. That work involves winning over, working for, serving, and gaining the trust, faith, and hope of the people.

[Ibarra] Commenting on the Central American crisis, President Duarte blamed Nicaragua for the political-military tension in the area. He accused the Sandinist regime of being totalitarian and communist and described President Daniel Ortega as a sick person.

[Duarte] I told Ortega in Guatemala that he is sick; that he has a psychosis, a phobia about the Marines. Why? Because he justifies murder, arrest of politicians, destructions of labor unions, attacks and censorship of the press, capture of priests, and attacks (?on people) by saying that he must do this to achieve total internal control of the country, because the Marines will invade the country.

[Ibarra] Jose Napoleon Duarte said that the Sandinists will be digging their own graves unless they change. After accusing Managua of boycotting the Contadora process, the Salvadoran president said that democracy is the tendency currently consolidating its [word indistinct] on the American continent.

DUARTE RULES OUT SABOTAGE IN PLANE CRASH

PA040313 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 May 86

[By Rossana Lemus]

[Excerpts] President Jose Napoleon Duarte has ruled out the possibility of an attack on the Air Force plane that crashed yesterday, at the same time that he said he does not mind being criticized for his search for peace. President Duarte denied that yesterday's plane crash could have been the result of sabotage.

[Begin recording] [Duarte] The reports I have received so far state that there was apparently a mechanical failure in the plane. There is no indication of possible sabotage or...[changes thought] Somebody asked me a slightly different question, as to whether it could have been a SAM-7, one of those missiles that would represent an escalation of the war toward the use of more sophisticated equipment, but I have not received any report to that effect. The truth is that the available information is that it is presumed that the crash was an accident.

[Lemus] Wasn't the plane allegedly checked the day before it departed?

[Duarte] Planes are always checked, but you know how those things are. You can check your car, but suddenly, the moment you start it, it fails. Therefore, we initially believe it was an accident, but nothing can be confirmed until investigations are completed. Experts are already studying all the phenomena to determine the cause of the crash.

[Lemus] Regarding the Salvadoran position at the Central American presidential summit in Esquipulas, what do you expect from the meeting?

[Duarte] I strongly hope that the meeting will be an excellent opportunity for the five Central American presidents to talk and try to find a point of reference, as point of convergence in what I call the application of participatory democracy. In that meeting, there will be four democratic countries of varied persuasions and perceptions, and a country with a Marxist government. The five of us will talk together. [end recording]

MINISTER ON GUERRILLA-GOVERNMENT MEETING

PA031248 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 86

[By Joel Burgos]

[Text] Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, minister of culture and communications, said today that the private meeting on Saturday in Lima, Peru, with FMLN second-in-command Ruben Zamora, and Hector Oqueli Colindres of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], was a meeting of political parties that had the approval of the Salvadoran Government. Rey Prendes said: "We were sent by President Duarte to explore the possible participation of the MNR and the Popular Christian Movement in the country's political process and the possibilities of holding other private meetings outside El Salvador."

In answer to questions by journalists, Minister Rey Prendes said:

[Begin recording] [Rey Prendes] After President Duarte assumed the Presidency, we called for a dialogue in La Palma, and for a dialogue in Ayagualo, and since then, a series of events have made us realize that dialogue within El Salvador has become a form of propaganda that has distorted the real purpose of the dialogue, which is to search for paths of peace.

In Ayagualo particularly, dialogue was used to promote violence not peace, in El Salvador. Those events made us modify our position regarding dialogue, and from the outset we established the need for private dialogue outside the country. Of course, we are not talking about secret talks -- I would like that to be clear to you -- we are talking about private talks, not about secret talks. They are private talks, first of all, because the participants and the mediators know about them; second, they are not secret talks because we will inform the Government, the Army, and some opposition sectors about them.

The country's leading forces must know the contents of those private meetings just as the rebels will inform their various organizations that do not participate in the private meetings.

Finally, once we attain agreements that will put us on the road to peace, we will be able to make announcements. To hold those meetings inside El Salvador creates frustration; the people are anxious about the country's situation, and they continue hoping that, after those meetings, a communique announcing peace will be issued. Since this has not been the case, but on the contrary, the meetings have been used to promote violence, dialogue inside El Salvador has lost credibility.

In view of that situation, and given the fact that the Social Christian Peoples Movement and the MRN -- not the FMLN or the FDR -- agreed to possible talks, we came to see if the rebels were willing to join the democratic process, but they were seeking the possibility of a wider dialogue, so the possibility of holding private meetings was studied. Of course, neither they nor we had the power of finalize any agreement in this meeting; we net only to study the possibilities of holding a private dialogue.

The possibilities of a private dialogue outside the country must be studied here, by us inside and by them outside. [sentence as heard]

[Unidentified reporter] This implies that this was a meeting between political parties, and not between the government and the guerrilla movement?

[Rey Prendes] Well, it is a little difficult for us to separate ourselves from the government, that is to say, we are part of the government. We were sent by President Duarte to attend this meeting here because the Peruvian president offered his country as the site of the meeting. However, in addition to being the Salvadoran president's representatives, we are of course members of a political party, and the rebels have sent representatives of two exclusively political parties: the MNR and the Social Christian Peoples Movement. They were not sent as FDR or FMLN representatives, even though later there have been contradictory statements by Ruben Zamora suggesting that the envoys were somehow representing the FMLN. However, they attended the meeting as representatives of two political parties. [end recording]

Rey Prendes also said that the only guarantee extended to the rebel groups for them to join the country's political process is the people's support. The meeting reopened the dialogue that was interrupted over 2 months ago due to disagreements between the two parties. The meeting took place 24 hours after U.S. Special Ambassador Philip Habib, Reagan's envoy for the Central American crisis, had met with Alan Garcia to discuss that crisis at the presidential palace. In conclusion, Rey Prendes said that he did not know the date or the place of any future meeting with the leftist leaders.

ARMY DISMANTLES FARABUNDO MARTI RELAY STATION

PA022332 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 May 86

[By Francisco Elias Valencia]

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 2 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Army said today it had dismantled the relay station of a rebel radio station in the northern part of the country, while the guerrillas insist that the Armed Forces sustained nearly 500 casualties in April. Lieutenant Colonel Natividad Caceres, commander of Military Detachment No 1, told ACAN-EFE today that "a few days ago" the Army dismantled a relay station of Radio Farabundo Marti in northern Chalatenango Department. Caceres, who did not wish to give greater details in this respect, said only that the equipment was seized from the guerrillas in El Comun Hill, Dulce Nombre de Maria jurisdiction, 70 km north of San Salvador, and turned over to the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff." [quotation marks as received] Radio Farabundo Marti is one of the clandestine radio stations of the FMLN guerrilla front, broadcasting from somewhere in northern Chalatenango Department, one of the two most important bastions of the rebels. The military high command added that the equipment was seized during the antiguerrilla operation being waged in several parts of Chalatenango. The military source did not wish to give further details on the operation that began last 5 March.

GUATEMALA

CEREZO ON NICARAGUAN PEACE DOCUMENT POSITION

PA050005 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1912 GMT 4 May 86

[By Mario Rolando Sierra]

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 May (ACAN-EFE) -- President Vinicio Cerezo said today that Nicaragua must sign the Contadora peace document, "because if it adopts a negative attitude it would be nullifying the efforts of the Latin American people."

The Sandinist government has said that the signing of the regional peace treaty, which has been under negotiation for the past 3 years, is contingent upon the suspension of U.S. aid to the counterrevolutionary groups. In view of this position, the Guatemalan president said that "Nicaragua has the right to do what it considers proper." However, he said: "We cannot speak now of what is fair and respectable; we must speak of political realism, and if they impose conditions that cannot be fulfilled, this means that they do not want to sign the agreements."

The Central American nations have been summoned to meet in mid-May to review the latest points of the document regarding the arms race and military maneuvers and the signing of the treaty on 6 June.

The Guatemalan president suggested that "Nicaragua must first sign the Contadora peace document and then finalize the necessary instruments to achieve peace in Central America." Asked if Nicaragua's refusal to sign the Contadora peace document within the established terms could mean Contadora's death, Cerezo said: "It would surely nullify a peace initiative." However the Sandinist government's current negative attitude "does not mean that the peace attempts of other Central American countries or of the Contadora nations will end," Cerezo added.

The Christian Democratic president expressed regret that "a Latin American search for a political instrument to solve the regional problems should have been wasted." He compared the Sandinist position to the situation of Jose Napoleon Duarte in El Salvador. He could adopt the decision to "sign the Contadora peace document only if the guerrillas in his country first stop fighting," Cerezo said. He said that "The peace agreements must be signed first and then specific instruments must be finalized to make the peace lasting."

Guatemala has already decided to sign the Contadora peace document on 6 June. The decision has also been supported by El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica. However, Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita believes that "the signing of the document by only four countries is inappropriate and pointless" because the armed conflict would continue.

Cerezo believes that if the Contadora (Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela) attempt fails, the last option would be a Central American parliament that will be created at the presidential "summit" in Esquipulas on 24 and 25 May. "We Central American people would be analyzing our own problems and finding viable solutions," the Guatemalan president said.

PRESIDENT CEREZO MEETS WITH PEASANT DELEGATION

PA030428 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Shortly after the peasants who marched on the capital city arrived at the Plaza Mayor, a delegation headed by Father Andres Giron met with President Vinicio Cerezo and the minister of agriculture at the National Palace. Meanwhile, a deputy and Mrs Raquel Blandon de Cerezo remained outside talking to the peasants and awaiting the results of the meeting. A few minutes later President Cerezo walked out on the presidential balcony and informed the peasants that effective and specific solutions would be sought to resolve the lack of land problem. Cerezo thanked the marchers for their peaceful demonstration, congratulated them, and expressed his pleasure because they did not create a confrontation among classes. The peasants told the president that they did not want land given to them, they want to buy the land.

They do not want to see other people's land confiscated.

President Cerezo told the peasants who marched on the capital city that he had issued orders to the Agriculture Ministry to create effective mechanisms to grant land. President Cerezo asked for a month, after which he will advise Father Giron so that he may inform the peasant community of the government's decision. President Cerezo said that government delegations will meet with the peasants to learn their views regarding the granting of land. Cerezo says that he is attempting to put an end to violence and confrontations so that all this will be part of the past and so that the future may bring peace and a new homeland.

Father Andres Giron, the organizer of the peasant march, said that there is no political motive behind this 147-km march that peasants from various regions of the south undertook. The peasants began their march on Monday from La Nueva Concepcion, Escuintla. Father Giron said that this march represents the voice of the peasant who has remained silent for 450 years -- more so for the past 30 years. Father Giron said that the movement is not only comprised of Catholics, but also of Protestants who have united their efforts in face of the need that has overcome them. The more than 14,000 peasants will return to their homes today following the long and difficult march.

Several peasants who represent the many delegations that marched on the city spoke publicly to express their support for President Cerezo, the government he heads, and Mrs Cerezo. They also said that their movement does not want violence or free land; all they want is peace and land to produce with so that they can live. Some of the peasants of the Guatemalan southwestern areas spoke in their native dialect, mainly Cakchiquel. They said that their efforts had not been in vain. They said that even though their feet bled and blistered, they reached their goal and spoke to the friendly president.

After the noon hour, the minister of agriculture, the minister of transportation, Deputy Aida de Rodriguez, and First Lady Raquel Blandon de Cerezo, together with Father Andres Giron and some peasants, organized the return of the marchers to their homes. The government cooperated with this effort by providing transportation. After having a bite to eat, the peasants organized in groups and boarded the buses that would return them to their homes. Approximately 1,500 peasants are still in the city waiting for the buses to return. Other peasants returned to their homes in trucks and hope to get there today.

In this way, the odyssey that began on Monday in La Nueva Concepcion, Escuintla, has come to an end. The long and hard road covered by the peasants created some minor problems, but these were overcome with the help of the Fire Department, Red Cross, and government peasant organizations. The voice silenced for many years has been heard; this voice has clearly understood the democratic phase that we are beginning to experience, and today those peasants are aware of their rights as Guatemalans.

MERCHANTS WITHDRAW PRODUCTS TO PRESSURE GOVERNMENT

PA020348 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2307 GMT 1 May 86

[By Mario Rolando Sierra]

[Text] Guatemala City, 1 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan producers and businessmen began to withdraw all the basic food products from local markets today as a measure to exert pressure and stop the government from enforcing new taxes.

Economy Minister Lizardo Sosa stated that this "illegal attitude will undoubtedly provoke a grave crisis in most of the population's food supply, so the government must drastically counter this action."

According to news media polls, the products that have begun to disappear from the markets include basic grains, cooking oil and lard, salt, sugar, coffee, and milk. Minister Sosa told ACAN-EFE that "the government has been unable to enforce drastic legal measures to prevent hoarding and speculation." The Christian Democratic official, who authorized an increase in the prices of coffee for internal consumption, said that "whoever wants to drink coffee will have to pay more."

However, the coffee processors have increased the price by 100 percent, and this problem is worsened by the fact that buying it in the big supermarkets is conditioned to the purchase of other non-necessary products; it is also scarce in small stores.

Meanwhile, two million inhabitants in the Guatemalan capital are facing the almost complete disappearance of sugar in local stores; the small amounts still available in local stores were being sold for twice the authorized price.

The economy minister said that "the suppliers have hidden the sugar to exert pressure, stop the government from enforcing new taxes, and force it to increase the price."

The sugar producers' association today blamed the stores and the government for the "increasing" lack of sugar in the market. The association said the product is being smuggled into Honduras, and its sales might add up to 1 million quetzales (1 quetzal equals 1 dollar) this year, given that the sugar is being bought in the neighboring country for twice the amount being paid in Guatemala.

The sugar producers are asking the Christian Democratic government to "urgently enforce the necessary measures in border posts to control the contraband and thus prevent the lack of sugar from becoming even worse."

Nevertheless, Minister Sosa said that "the government has information that the producers and businessmen have withdrawn the product to provoke a crisis and create instability." As a first measure, to "force the businessmen to normalize the sale, we have withheld the shipment of $2 million in sugar by not authorizing its export, although the ship is currently anchored at the port of Santo Tomas de Castilla," on the Atlantic coast, he added.

HONDURAS

U.S. TROOPS TO REMAIN UNTIL 'EMERGENCY' ENDS

PA031253 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0344 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 2 May (REUTER) -- Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo said today that the presence of U.S. troops in his country will end when the "emergency" situation prevailing in the convulsed Central American area ends, through the signing of the Contadora document for peace and regional cooperation.

Azcona also said in statements to a local radio station that he will travel to Washington on 26 May on an official visit, during which he is scheduled to meet with top-ranking officials in the Reagan administration. This will be Azcona's first visit to the U.S. capital since he was sworn in as president on 27 January. The president had visited that city shortly before assuming his post.

Azcona Hoyo constantly defended the United States' military presence in Honduras, the site of many joint military maneuvers and base of operations for the anti-Sandinist rebels -- popularly known as contras -- who have been trying to oust the Nicaraguan Government since 1982, helped by the U.S. Government. Azcona explained that U.S. military presence in Honduras -- which according to the lastest figures has increased to 1,500 soldiers -- is a consequence of the reciprocal military assistance agreement which was signed in 1954. The president further emphasized: "Whether we like it or not, we have an emergency, an irregular situation, and as soon as this is solved through Contadora or any other mechanism their precence will not be necessary in Honduras."

He stated that the foreign troops will withdraw as soon as a solution to the regional crisis is achieved; however, he added, "we will always have and count on that great northern country's assistance in the military sector."

The previous government, led by Roberto Suazo Cordova, systematically refused to admit the contras' presence in Honduras. However, his successor, Azcona, recently admitted that the right-wing groups fighting the revolutionary government in Managua are acting from Honduran territory.

'OBSTACLES' IN TALKS WITH EL SALVADOR REPORTED

PA011736 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Apr 86 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- After arriving at satisfactory agreements during the first meetings, the Honduran-Salvadoran efforts at the Commission of In-Depth Territorial Studies yesterday encountered obstacles in the preparation of the compromise for joint appearance before the International Court of Justice.

The Salvadoran authorities arrived with a proposal that annoyed the Honduran authorities, although the latter had expressed their confidence that an agreement would be reached prior to the fateful 10 June deadline.

"New difficulties have emerged" Attorney Mario Carias Zapata, the president of the national commission, has told TIEMPO, expressing his deep concern. Although Carias Zapata abstained from mentioning the obstacles, because the general peace treaty forbids the disclosure of matters discussed within the commission, he expressed his confidence that the problems will be resolved next week.

"Honduras has participated in the talks with a desire to reach an agreement," Carias Zapata said, indirectly complaining about the Salvadorans' position. He recalled that the treaty offers the alternative that either country can unilaterally present the case at The Hague court. However, he stressed that a joint venture "would be advantageous." Carias Zapata did not say what those advantages would be.

The Honduran official added that there had been no opportunity to talk about the need to install the demarcation commission as soon as possible, so that it can begin working on the tasks left unfinished by the Joint Border Commission for the delimitation of the border areas in the peace treaty.

The talks may continue today, however, the two parties have not decided on this yet. If there is no meeting today, the commission's next and last meeting will be held in May in San Salvador.

Following that meeting, an agreement would have to be reached within the first 10 days of June.

The clever Salvadoran negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta, preferred not to give many details. "We have been analyzing the whole problem," he said. He noted that there are two proposed documents for the joint appearance, adding that the details and the general peace treaty have been analyzed. In his usual courteous manner with Honduran journalists, Acevedo Peralta stressed that "El Salvador is sincerely interested in signing a compromise." Asked if El Salvador will take the case to the International Court unilaterally if an agreement is not reached, he told TIEMPO: "The treaty includes this possibility, which we consider remote." He was asked: Nevertheless, would El Salvador consider the possibility of asking the court to define the border? "In the event that no agreement is reached -- which is a remote possibility -- it would have to be that way," he replied. He added that "there have been some differences regarding the style [classes] and procedures" in drafting the document, which will have only 8 or 10 articles.

Another member of the Salvadoran delegation said that they did not come with a "closed mind." "We are reaching the final phase, and we are aware that there is not much time before the deadline," he concluded.

NICARAGUA

RAMIREZ REMARKS ON ESQUIPULAS SUMMIT

PA030310 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 May 86

[By Leonardo Romero]

[Text] The Presidency of the Republic has issued an official bulletin on today's official visit to Guatemala by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado. Vice President Ramirez Mercado was told that the world has many expectations for the meeting to be held in Nicaragua. Ramirez was asked what Nicaragua expects from this meeting. Ramirez said that Nicaragua has come to Guatemala to support the preparatory meeting for the Esquipulas summit proposed by Guatemala. He added that he hopes that the meeting will be held without difficulties. Ramirez said that Nicaragua feels that the Esquipulas summit will be able to prove that the Central American countries, the Central American governments, are capable of direct dialogue and seeking direct solutions to the problems of peace in the region. We trust that this region will be capable of producing essential agreements on peace and also of achieving permanent mechanisms, and consult mechanisms, that will include periodic meetings among the Central American leaders. Ramirez also said that the presidents will discuss a Central American parliament, an initiative presented by Guatemala that should be approved during this meeting.

Asked about the Contadora peace document, Vice President Ramirez said that Nicaragua feels that it is illogical when Nicaragua is a victim of a foreign aggression. Ramirez said that this aggression is promoted by the United States and not by the Central American countries. Therefore, any commitment Nicaragua makes in regard to arms reduction, as well as in our defense capability, must be linked to the promise of the U.S. Government to do the same and stop its aggression against Nicaragua.

TINOCO VIEWS CONTADORA PEACE DOCUMENT PROSPECTS

PA041429 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1311 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May (EFE) -- Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco has stated in Buenos Aires that the Nicaraguan Government "does not oppose" signing the peace and cooperation document proposed by the Contadora Group, which must be signed before this coming 6 June.

Tinoco explained that Managua "is the one most interested in peace," but that the difficulties for signing the document lie in the attitude of the United States "which has demonstrated that it is not disposed to halting its military maneuvers in the region and reducing its arms buildup."

In statements made last night shortly before ending his 3-day visit to Argentina, the Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister stressed that his country "is disposed to signing a document that genuinely serves to guarantee the peace and prosperity of the countries of Central America." In that sense he noted that "this will not be possible if the United States continues to support the contras who continue to attack the Sandinist Government."

Victor Hugo Tinoco said that "we do not dismiss" the possibility of a U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua and stated the opinion that "as long as that threat persists it is very unlikely that the efforts of the Contadora Group will be crowned with success."

"We cannot commit suicide; any peace agreement must be accompanied by a legal commitment on the part of the United States to not support the contras" he added. This position, Tinoco noted, "is the one that deals with securing a real peace and it is shared by the governments of other Latin American countries."

During his visit to Argentina, the Nicaraguan diplomat met with President Raul Alfonsin, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and other ranking officials of the Argentine Foreign Ministry. Tinoco's visit coincided with the arrival in the country of Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. Argentina has played an important role of late in the peace-keeping efforts in Central America after its participation in the so-called Support Group together with Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR BRAZIL

PA040219 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0112 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Managua, 3 May (DPA) -- Transportation Minister Commander William Ramirez left today for Brazil, invited by the manufacturers of Mercedes Benz vehicles in Rio de Janeiro, it was learned today in Managua. Ramirez' trip may result in new negotiations for the purchase of more Mercedes Benz vehicles with which to improve passenger and cargo transportation service in Nicaragua.

Nearly 400 of the over 500 urban and rural transportation vehicles in Managua come from the Mercedes Benz factories in Brazil and Argentina. Some 300 vehicles are needed in Managua to satisfy the demand for transportation services of 1 million people. [figures as received]

Minister Ramirez will reportedly visit Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro with a group of technicians who will analyze jointly, with those of the Mercedes Benz factory, the performance of the buses and trucks that operate in Nicaragua.

COMMANDER CARRION'S MAY DAY ADDRESS CITED

PA031718 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 May 86 p 3

[Excerpts] If we are able to celebrate this 1 May with freedom, it is only because these people have defended their fatherland and its revolution with weapons in their hands, not sparing any sacrifice, Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz said to hundreds of peasants and laborers, many wearing their olive green uniforms, who were listening to him, convinced of this reality, in the park in Juigalpa, Region 5.

Commenting on why Nicaragua will never disarm itself in the face of aggression, the leader said: "No rifle or bullet is one too many" as long as the imperialist determination to destroy us persists.

In view of the current situation, when the people are defeating the mercenaries and the U.S. Government is determined to obtain support for its overt aid to the contras -- because they already give them covert aid -- "we cannot disarm ourselves and will not do so." He pointed out that to sign a commitment in this regard, respect for Nicaragua's sovereignty must be guaranteed; the end of aggression would be a first step.

Commenting about those who believe that a dialogue with the counterrevolutionaries could draw us closer to peace, he said they are completely wrong, because that would be like negotiating with Somoza's ghost after 7 years of struggle, sacrifices, and death; that would allow the moneybags and oligarchs to take the power away from the workers, dismantle their labor unions, and return the land to large landowners and the banks to the Montealegres or the Fernandez Hollmans.

Carrion added: "The counterrevolution wants the country to be faithfully submissive to the United States, and we want exactly the opposite; we want an agrarian reform, freedom for the workers, nationalization of banks, and an improvement in the literacy rate and health of the people; we do not want those people to ever gain power again." "That is why we have nothing to talk about with the mercenaries," Carrion pointed out.

"We must move forward, replace those things that we cannot buy and will need with ingenuity, initiative, and creativity. The leader said that only with the determination of the working people to fight, not only with weapons but from their production and service trenches every day, will the lives of the people be defended and the fatherland and the revolution maintained.

After calling on the crowd to solve their current problems, Carrion pointed to the need to improve communication between labor unions and management by solving problems together. He said: "The labor unions must fulfill this task; shared participation, efforts, and responsibilities should be the main support points and productive objectives."

He regretted that "sometimes we wear ourselves down due a lack of good communication, while the enemy tightens up." He said that collective work and participation could improve the work atmosphere and have immediate effects on output.

Finally, he called on all to follow the example of technical workers at the Construction Ministry in Region 5, who under difficult conditions besieged by the enemy, have achieved special tasks and excellent results at work.

EPS REPORTS 457 ENEMY CASUALTIES IN APRIL

PA030141 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Matagalpa, Region 6 -- So far this year the EPS has inflicted 1,300 casualties on the mercenary forces that operated in Region 6. This was reported by Commander Manuel Salvatierra, chief of military Region 6, when he closed the first meeting of the 19 July Sandinist Youth. This meeting was held during 30 April and 1 May in Matagalpa. He also indicated in the month of April alone, the people's troops inflicted 457 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the mercenaries in 119 clashes in Region 6.

Salvatierra pointed out that the FDN (?lost) one-third of its forces during 1985 and that the organization has still not succeeded in gaining back its strength. He added that the counterrevolutionaries only represent the U.S. Government's warmongering determination. Salvatierra said further that the organizational level of the armed forces of the revolutionary people is what has made possible the strategic defeat of the White House proteges. This is demonstrated by the fact that 71 casualties were inflicted on the enemy during the past 3 days of combat. In addition, during the actions that the Francisco Estrada and Juan Pablo Umanzor Unconventional Warfare Battalion's BLI and the (?light) Cazadores Battalion of the 372d Militias Brigade recently executed at the (?Nadabia) area, the enemy suffered 180 casualties and lost a large number of brand new rifles. This occurred after the enemy was chased for 320 km deep into the mountains and very close to the Honduran border. While he reported about the strategic defeat of the counterrevolutionaries, Commander Salvatierra greeted the world proletariat on behalf of the EPS officers and rank and file at the various military units in the region.

BARRICADA, EL NUEVO DIARIO ON CARDINAL'S SPEECH

PA031238 [Editorial Report] The newspaper EL NUEVO DIARIO and BARRICADA in Spanish in their 2 May issues publish reports on a speech by Cardinal Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo on the occasion of the commemoration of the International Labor Day on 1 May in Managua.

According to EL NUEVO DIARIO, the cardinal spoke at length against the government, expressed his political stance in favor of the forces hostile to the revolution, and incited the people to violate the country's laws during a meeting of the Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers (CTN) at the El Calvario Church. The newspaper went on to say that, challenging the state of emergency law, Obando y Bravo said that "strike may continue to be necessary," while he proclaimed the need for "independent trade unions."

According to BARRICADA, the meeting was convened by the CTN, the Social Christian Party [PSC], and the Social Democratic Party. The newspaper indicated that Obando y Bravo said: "The class struggle never ends in the dictatorship of the proletariat. The practice of Leninism leads to totalitarianism, which deprives people of their freedom, and the workers' being exploited by the state."

Obando y Bravo reportedly appealed to workers to participate in trade union elections, enterprise committees, the signing of collective contracts, and strikes. In addition, Luis Vega, PSC leader and LA PRENSA editor, read a letter addressed to the Nicaraguan president requesting that "thousands of peasants who have been detained be released and that the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals be eliminated, BARRICADA reported.

NATION CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY

FL020241 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] All the Cuban people celebrated International Workers' Day during events held in each province showing massive support to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's recent remarks and honoring the Chicago incidents.

In Camaguey the parade and rally were presided over by Army General Raul Castro, second party secretary and FAR minister. At the beginning of the parade, Raul Castro handed Jorge Torres, first secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions in the territory, third party congress banner which accredits the province as one fulfilling that emulation. Politburo member Jorge Risquet and Lazaro Vazquez, alternate Politburo member and party first secretary in Camaguey, also presided over the event with Raul, as well as outstanding workers, national vanguards, martyrs' relatives, specialists and technicians from friendly countries, and leaders of the party, government, and mass organizations.

Secretariat member Jaime Crombet presided over the May Day gathering in Sancti Spiritus in which its people reasserted their willingness to intensify their productive efforts and be worthy of hosting the 26 July main ceremony.

Headed by Julio Camacho Aguilera, Politburo member and party first secretary in Santiago de Cuba, 140,000 residents reaffirmed their determination to work efficiently to fulfill the agreements reached at the party third congress.

Over 100,000 people from Guantanamo also expressed this and celebrated receiving the ready for defense banner, in its first degree, given to the province. This incentive was given to Raul Michel Vargas, alternate Politburo member and party first secretary in Guantanamo, by Division General Sixto Batista Santana, Secretariat member.

In Bayamo, Politburo member Pedro Miret handed Granma Province the banners of the emulation and the sugar production plan in 1985-86 harvest.

This May Day the enthusiasm and the people's unity with the party and Fidel was clearly seen. Around 50,000 people participated in the provincial main event. It was presided over by Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member and culture minister, and Huberto Migeul Fernandez, Central Committee member and party first secretary in Cienfuegos.

Over 100,000 people from Holguin supported the guidelines given by the commander in chief and celebrated receiving the third party congress banner. The banner was given by Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, alternate Politburo member.

The Isle of Youth labor movement also received the incentive. It was awarded by Secretariat member Jose Ramon Balaguer during today's event.

In the rest of the provinces, May Day events were constituted by huge massive expressions of revolutionary reassertion, where the people from Pinar del Rio, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Ciego de Avila, Las Tunas, and Havana celebrated with their leaders and outstanding workers the glorious workers' day.

PRD, PRSC CLASH; SEVERAL DEAD, INJURED

PA050150 Paris AFP in Spanish 0103 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo 4 May (AFP) -- The press reported today that apparently two or three people were killed and a dozen injured in clashes this afternoon near the beach resort of "Boca Chica," some 30 km from Santo Domingo, between demonstrators of the government-sponsored Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) and the opposition Reformist-Social Christian Party (PRSC).

In a press conference at 0030 GMT, 5 May, Senator Jacobo Cajluta, PRD presidential candidate who headed his party's demonstrators in "Boca Chica," he stated that an attempt was made on his life during the incident. It was said that the jeep he was traveling in had been hit by bullets, and three of his bodyguards were injured.

FIREARMS SEIZED, FORMER POLICE CHIEF ARRESTED

'Arsenal of Weapons' Discovered

PA032349 Paris AFP in Spanish 2302 GMT 2 May 86

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 2 May (AFP) -- The National Police have discovered and confiscated a veritable "arsenal of weapons and military equipment" in the home of Luis Ney Tejeda Alvarez, president of a minor political party and former chief of police, the authorities reported today.

Police Chief Major Juan Jose Rodriguez Ortiz reported that the house of General Tejeda Alvarez, retired, president of the National Party of Civilian Veterans (PNVC), located in a central residential neighborhood of Santo Domingo, was broken into this morning in a joint operation carried out by military, police, and state security personnel. It was reported that Tejeda Alvarez was arrested with one of his sons, and both were questioned intensively.

Tejeda Alvarez was National Police chief during one of the three administrations of former President Joaquin Balaguer (1966-1978), whose presidential candidacy for the 16 May elections is supported by the PNVC, news media noted.

The PNVC is small group of former military personnel and former officials. In the 1982 elections it obtained some 4 percent of the votes.

The confiscated weapons, including 15 grenades, 11 different kinds of rifles, 4 .30-calibre carbines, 7 pistols and a revolver, as well as various kinds of military equipment, were exhibited during a press conference by General Rodriguez Ortiz.

Jorge Orders Raid

PA030155 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0020 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 2 May (EFE) -- In a massive raid, Dominican soldiers and policemen are searching civilians suspected of carrying firearms and seizing those weapons, regardless of whether the civilians have official permits to carry weapons.

Mixed Police and Army patrols are conducting the searches along streets and highways, chiefly at exit points in the capital.

Dominican President Jorge Blanco ordered the measure 9 days ago to prevent further deaths and injuries in the current electoral campaign that will conclude with the 16 May elections.

So far four persons have been shot to death. Two are from the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) and two from the Reformist-Social Christian Party (PRSC), the main opposition party.

PRSC presidential candidate Joaquin Balaguer commented that the Dominican Republic is experiencing moments of panic caused by the disarming of civilians, which he described as indiscriminate. Balaguer said that the soldiers and policemen are seizing firearms only from his party followers -- from persons who have licenses to bear weapons, and those who need to protect their property. He said that the measure must cover all politicians, without any exceptions, not just the PRSC members.

BRIEFS

NEW PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR -- At 8 tonight the Dominican-Peruvian House [Casa Dominico-Peruana] will hold a special meeting to welcome the new Peruvian ambassador, Miguel Barandiarian B. [Excerpt] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 25 Apr 86 p 5 FL]

FORMER VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT VISITS -- Dr Joaquin Balaguer will meet former Venezuelan president Rafael Caldera today at the Las Americas airport. Caldera has been invited to the Dominican Republic by the Reformist Party. The former Venezuelan President, who heads the Christian Democratic Organization of America, ODCA, will arrive this afternoon from Caracas. [Excerpt] [Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 May 86 FL]